



# KENT ON SUNDAY

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IT'S WHAT SUNDAYS ARE ALL ABOUT

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Complimentary



## JENNY ECLAIR ON COMEDY, MARRIAGE AND REACHING 50

Comic speaks ahead of her Old Dog New Tricks show


**PLUS LENLEYS CELEBRATES STORE REFURBISHMENT WITH MONEY-SAVING OFFERS**

# NOT ENOUGH CASH IN THE PENSION POT?

## 'Demographic timebomb starting to explode'

A PENSIONS panic is on the horizon with the number of Kent workers reaching retirement age set to rise by nearly a fifth.

This year, about 32,700 people turned 65 across the county, but that figure is expected to jump to 38,700 by the time the Olympics come to town in 2012.

Four Kent districts – Dartford, Sevenoaks, Canterbury and Maidstone – are all set for increases of more than 20 per cent, with experts warning the cost of paying out for so many state pensions will place an even greater strain on public finances.

Across the county the number of pensioners will rise by an estimated 18 per cent.

In an average year about 650,000 people nationally will celebrate their 65th birthday, but this is due to rise to 800,000 in 2012, to reflect

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

the large numbers of babies born to couples reunited following the end of World War Two.

"The demographic time bomb has started to explode," said pensions expert Dr Ros Altmann, director-general of the Folkestone-based Saga group which specialises in services for older people.

"More and more pensioners are coming through every year and it's something successive Governments have failed to plan for.

"It's not a surprise. These people have been in the population all the time, but nothing has been done about them.

"It became absolutely clear under the previous Labour government that there were problems with the state pension, but the politicians haven't been thinking long term enough and

now we have to wake up to reality. We need a radical reform of the pension system, making people feel safer when it comes to saving rather than putting them off with taxes and regulations."

This year about 1,600 Dartford residents reached retirement age, but this figure is due to rocket by 25 per cent to 2,000 in 2012.

Ashford is the district with the lowest expected increase in Kent, but even that is an 11 per cent jump from 2,700 to 3,000.

Proposals currently being considered by the Government to tackle the problem include bringing forward increases to the state pension age and allowing people to work past it should they wish to continue earning a full-time wage.

Kent's ageing population is also creating challenges for Kent County Council which provides a range of services for elderly people

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



## Stig drives into Kent

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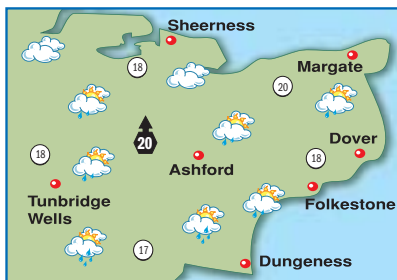


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## Kent today



**TODAY:** Windy. It will be a mild start. Some sunny spells today but it will often be cloudy too with just a few showers. More persistent rain during the evening. Max temp 17-20C (63-68F). **TONIGHT:** Increasingly cloudy and wet with outbreaks of rain, heavy after midnight. Min temp 13-16C (55-61F).

## Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	rain	13	55	London	showers	18	64
Belfast	rain	13	55	Liverpool	rain	15	59
Birmingham	rain	15	59	Manchester	rain	15	59
B'mouth	showers	16	61	Newcastle	rain	15	59
Bristol	rain	16	61	Norwich	rain	20	68
Cardiff	rain	15	59	Oxford	rain	16	61
Cork	showers	13	55	Southsea	rain	17	63
Edinburgh	rain	14	57	Sh'ampton	rain	16	61
Glasgow	showers	14	57	Southport	rain	15	59
Isle of Man	rain	14	57	Swansea	rain	15	59
Leeds	rain	14	57	Torquay	rain	15	59



## Sun & moon

Sunrise	6.59am	Sunset	6.29pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	12.57am	Moonset	4.17pm	6.29pm to 7.01am

## High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	07.24 5.5 20.08 5.6	08.44 5.8 21.15 6.0
Margate	07.58 3.9 20.54 4.2	09.24 4.1 22.06 4.5
St Mary's	00.45 4.3 13.24 4.6	02.09 4.6 14.36 5.0

## Week ahead

 <b>monday</b> Spells of rain. max 17C min 11C	 <b>thursday</b> Rain. max 15C min 8C
 <b>tuesday</b> Heavy rain. max 16C min 10C	 <b>friday</b> Showers. max 15C min 8C
 <b>wednesday</b> Showers. max 16C min 8C	 <b>saturday</b> Rain. max 17C min 10C

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# Pensions crisis a ticking timebomb, expert warns

## CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

including sheltered accommodation and active life projects.

However, cabinet member for adult social services Cllr Graham Gibbens said turning 65 was not a critical factor. "I'm 62 and I don't count myself as being particularly old," he said. "Medical developments mean people are a lot healthier in their 60s and 70s now than they were not too long ago."

"The real issue for society is the increasing longevity of life, including for the infirm and disabled. Nationally the number of over-85s in society will have increased by 45 per cent between 2006 and 2021, and that's the real challenge we have to be facing up to."

Cllr Gibbens pointed to KCC's Activemobs scheme which encourages people of all ages

to engage in physical activity, as an example of how the council is supporting older people.

He admitted the authority will also have to rely more on voluntary organisations like Age UK in the future.

Cllr Gibbens added: "We are finding that people want to live independently for as long as possible, so we are trying to develop as many facilities as possible to help them do so including our extra-care sheltered housing."

"We also have a very strong enablement process that provides intensive support to help elderly people leaving hospital to live at home again, and that's working very well."

According to the Department for Work and Pensions, spending on people over working age has risen by almost £14 billion since the first of the baby boomer generation started to

draw their pensions in 2005-06. The three urban areas that will see the greatest increase in 65-year-olds over the next two years are Aberdeen (33 per cent), Hull (30) and Kingston upon Thames (26).

Dr Altmann said she did not believe the added financial pressures would one day lead to the abolition of the state pension.

She said: "I think it's more likely the state pension will provide a basic minimum."

"At the moment the system is too complex and no-one knows what they're going to get."

"If everyone knew exactly what they were going to get then they would know they would have to save more or work part-time to top it up."

• **See Business Week inside for more on pensions and Dr Ros Altmann.**

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A PROPOSED super-alliance with Essex County Council may be under threat after Kent's Tory MPs rebelled against the plan.

Last month Kent County Council announced it had submitted a proposal to form a Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) with its neighbour across the Thames, despite having earlier pledged its support for a similar agreement with Medway.

It has been suggested the U-turn was due to KCC Tory leader Cllr Paul Carter being pressured by local government secretary Eric Pickles and business secretary Vince Cable, although Cllr Carter denies this.

However, the Kent and Medway LEP proposal was submitted by Medway Council regardless and has now won the backing of 13 of the county's 17 Tory MPs.

LEPs will oversee the social economic development of the region, and were one of the first proposals of the new coalition Government.

The MPs' letter to Mr Pickles and Mr Cable reads: "As Kent Members of Parliament we believe any reform relating to its overall strategy and infrastructure should be in the interest of Kent and Medway's economic stability and prosperity."

"We are therefore very concerned the proposal to create a super-LEP across Kent and Greater Essex is contrary to that belief. We feel the proposed LEP is not representative of the various micro-economies that exist throughout Kent, each with their own distinct characteristics and requirements that we feel will not receive the tailored attention they require."

"Instead we fear they will be scooped up within an unnecessarily broad and ineffectual Kent/Essex-based strategy."



**LETTER: Business secretary Vince Cable**

# Tory MPs rebel over proposed Essex alliance

Last June the Government announced it was scrapping all regional development agencies – including the South East England Development Agency (Seed) – and replacing them with LEPs. Should the Kent and Essex partnership get the go-ahead, it will be responsible for the economic development of an area bigger than 13 European countries and with a combined population of 3.4 million.

The MPs who oppose the plan say that apart from the Dartford crossing and the M25, the two counties do not share an integrated transport system and will therefore not benefit by co-operating with one another in that respect.

They also point out that Kent and Essex fall into different regions as recognised by the European Union, posing a difficulty in terms of EU funding.

The letter reads: "We believe the intention of creating a super-LEP to save central government money in the short term will in fact harm the people and businesses of Kent in the long term."

"We strongly believe it makes more sense geographically and economically to establish the Kent and Medway LEP, and therefore urge

you to take into account these points when considering the Kent and Essex proposal."

Only five MPs did not sign the letter, although one of them – Gillingham and Rainham MP Rehman Chishti – has also voiced his support for the Kent and Medway proposal.

Three of the remaining four – Damian Green (Ashford), Hugh Robertson (Faversham and Mid Kent) and Greg Clark (Tunbridge Wells) – are all government ministers. Meanwhile, Cllr Carter has also written a letter to all of Kent's MPs setting out the reasons why he thinks a Kent and Essex LEP is a good idea.

He wrote: "We genuinely believe a Kent and Greater Essex LEP is very much in the best interests of both counties, and particularly to business."

"The proposal in no way diminishes the good joint work already going on in Kent and Medway, or the importance of local priorities."

Cllr Carter went on to explain some of the benefits of such a proposal, including attracting inward investment, the potential for devolution and the ability to share economic challenges.

He also invited the MPs to join him in meeting Mr Pickles to discuss the plan next week.

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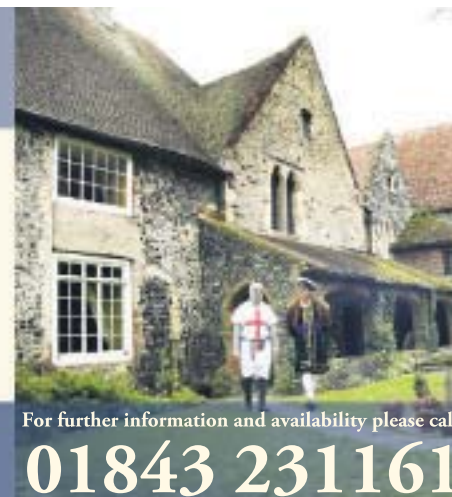
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# Bell's book rings the changes after expenses scandal

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

**ANTI-corruption** campaigner Martin Bell has spoken of his shock at the expenses exposé which left his former political colleagues mired in scandal.

The ex-BBC war correspondent and independent MP is due to visit Bexleyheath library this month to give a talk about his book – *A Very British Revolution* – which provides an inside view on the financial abuse which tore Parliament apart last year.

Mr Bell, 72, represented the Cheshire constituency of Tatton for four years between 1997 and 2001 and told KOS Media he was surprised to hear what some of his former colleagues had been claiming for.

"I knew there was some fiddling going on because there always is," he said. "But it was the sheer scale of it that shocked me. I always saw my expense claims as an issue of public interest, but I was more or less invited to write a blank cheque for myself every month."

"I used to estimate how much I spent on travel and I also used to claim for the rent of a small cottage, but after the scandal broke I worked out that I could have claimed for an extra £62,000 of other things within the rules. I found the whole thing rather sad, especially when I saw how many of those

caught up in it had rather good records as MPs and ministers. I found it extraordinary, for example, that (former Foreign Secretary) Margaret Beckett had filed a claim for hanging baskets when it never occurred to me that such things could be regarded as Parliamentary costs."

A former member of the Committee on Standards and Privileges, Mr Bell explains in his book how he believes the expenses crisis arose and also his prescription for healing the deep wounds inflicted.

"It caused a great deal of long-term damage," he said. "Trust in politics is essential and once it's lost it's very difficult to restore."

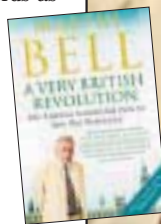
"But it's good that we have so many new MPs now who want to distance themselves from the scandal and a better system in place to make sure nobody is abusing the rules."

"I think the Government is now in a better position to put the whole thing behind them."

Mr Bell announced he was leaving the BBC for politics just 24 days before the 1997 general election.

He stood against and defeated then-Conservative MP Neil Hamilton – who at the time was embroiled in the cash-for-questions affair – by a massive 11,077 votes after the Labour and Lib Dem candidates allowed him a free run at the seat.

Despite being popular among his constituents, Mr Bell stuck to his promise to serve one term in Parliament and stood



**SHOCKED:** The former MP, BBC war correspondent and author, Martin Bell

down in 2001. His successor was Chancellor George Osborne.

When asked how he thought the Con-Lib coalition was faring, Mr Bell said: "The jury is still out on that, but I prefer to see MPs working together than shouting abuse at one another across the House. I always found that sort of behaviour hard to take."

"I only ever spoke on issues I thought were relevant or ones I had a good knowledge of."

Mr Bell's talk will take place at the central library, Bexleyheath, from 7.30pm on Wednesday, October 13.

Tickets cost £2.50 and can be purchased from the venue or by calling 020 8303 7777.

News and sport updated daily online  
[www.kentnews.co.uk](http://www.kentnews.co.uk)

## Sikh pilot tribute

THE heroics of Sikh fighter pilot Mohinder Singh Puji, 92, are to be recognised with a tribute at Gravesend's Civic Centre.

The Squadron Leader from Gravesend, who risked his life for Britain in World War Two, died last week in Darent Valley Hospital in Dartford following a stroke 10 days earlier. Mayor of Gravesend Cllr Bill Lambert has asked for a portrait and details about Sq/Ldr Singh Puji's heroism in the RAF to be placed in the council chamber in the Civic Centre.

He said: "Mr Puji's life reminds us of the immense personal sacrifice made by people in times of extraordinary adversity."

**THE owner of Kent International Airport** has put forward new proposals to allow the company to run night-time flights.

Infratil was required to submit plans to Thanet council at least six months before it wants any extended licence to begin.

The firm's latest application is an updated version of the one submitted in August, last year, which did not include an adequate report on aircraft noise. Thanet council is due to hold a public consultation on the plans.

To see this search 'shared' @ [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)



Dancers dodge the traffic in shared space streets as part of the Ashford Visual Arts and Architecture Festival

## Stabbing suicide agony of Bond girl Gemma's gran

BOND girl Gemma Arterton's grandmother stabbed herself to death because she was racked with pain and suffering from severe depression.

Helen Sarfas, 69, was found in bed with a kitchen knife sticking out of her side by husband Rodney Peacock, 85, at the flat they shared in Beechings Way, Gillingham.

Mrs Sarfas, who kept her previous married

name, suffered from bipolar disorder and was in pain from osteoporosis plus a weakening of her spine, a Maidstone inquest was told on Thursday.

She was under supervision from the mental health team at Medway Maritime Hospital which limited her supply of anti-depressants because Mrs Sarfas had made previous attempts to commit suicide.

Two years before her death in January, Mrs Sarfas told national newspapers how proud she was of granddaughter Gemma, who comes from Gravesend.

Mr Peacock said his wife was depressed at the treatment she received from the community team because they wouldn't supply her with more pills.

He said: "I was making her a cup of tea when I realised something was wrong. I drew the cover back and saw the knife sticking out of her chest and the blood. She was unhappy with the system."

"Her psychiatrist retired and she didn't like the new ones."

Home Office pathologist Dr Peter Jerreat said she died from a single stab wound to the heart and felt no pain as she probably fainted with shock.

Although Mr Peacock was questioned by police, officers quickly realised he had nothing to do with his wife's death.

Mid-Kent coroner Roger Sykes heard a harrowing 999 call Mr Peacock made to police. My Sykes said: "Helen Sarfas died from stab wounds to the heart."

"Those wounds were self-inflicted. She took her own life as she was suffering severe pain from osteoarthritis and her joints."

"Her husband has stressed the pain she was going through."

"I can only reach the conclusion she took her life because the physical pain and depression became too much."

Arterton's father was a welder and her mother a cleaner. She was brought up by her single mother on a council estate.

The actress, who previously worked as a makeup salesgirl, attended Gravesend Grammar School for Girls and took a performance arts course at the Miskin Theatre in Dartford before training at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London.



**GEMMA ARTERTON:** In the hit film *Tamara Drewe*

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## Increase in county patients going under the knife in the battle of the bulge

**EXCLUSIVE**

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

THE number of obese people being put forward for weight-loss surgery on the NHS has rocketed in Kent over the last three years.

Last year NHS West Kent referred 115 patients to the Morbid Obesity Single Patient Funding Panel – a massive increase of 203 per cent from 2007-08 – while NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent did the same for 113 patients, an increase of 163 per cent.

Many of those put forward would have been deemed suitable for bariatric (weight loss) surgery including gastric band operations and gastric bypasses, which cost an average of £10,000 per patient.

Nationally the number has risen from just 238 a decade ago to almost 7,000 in 2008.

However, Maidstone GP and British Medical Association spokesman Dr Paul Hobday said it was inevitable uptake rates of a fairly new procedure would increase dramatically.

"It's only really gone up so much because the figures started from zero," he said.

"But there are so many obstacles put in people's way before they are approved – like exercise programmes, dieting and psychologists – that most of the people who get the surgery absolutely deserve it.

"From a GP's point of view it's not available enough. It's easy to say people shouldn't eat as much, but we've got the problem and it needs to be tackled.

"It's not about taking the easy option either because you'd have to be pretty dim to eat lots of cream cakes knowing you can just solve your weight issues with a gastric band.

"Lots of people are terrified about having the operation, but they do it because nothing else has worked and they feel they have no other option."

Gastric banding involves reducing the size of the stomach by fitting a band around it, while a gastric bypass reroutes food to a small stomach pouch created by surgeons.

A third, less frequently used procedure removes a portion of the stomach.

Mike Lander – morbid obesity lead commissioner for the South East – said bariatric



**MEDICAL OPTION:** More overweight patients are going under the knife to treat obesity

# Gastric band operations on rise for obese

surgery was a last resort for patients who have been unable to lose weight by conventional means or who have a body mass index of 50kg per square metre or greater.

He added: "Each patient will only be considered if all other appropriate ways to lose weight have been tried for at least 12 months before referral."

The figures obtained by KOS Media through a Freedom of Information Act request date back to the establishment of the patient funding panel in July, 2006.

From then to the following March, only 14 people were referred by West Kent and just five by Eastern and Coastal.

Richard D North – a spokesman for right wing think tank the Social Affairs Unit – said it was probably cheaper for overweight people to undergo bariatric surgery than it would be to fund their long-term health problems.

## Health chiefs say no to paying the obese to diet

NHS trusts in Kent have snubbed recommendations from a national health advisor to pay obese people to lose weight.

The National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE), an independent organisation set up by government to issue health guidance, said incentives, such as cash, could be an effective way to help people diet and giving up smoking.

But Kent's three primary care trusts have said paying people to lose weight is not the way to tackle Kent and Medway's obesity problem.

Between 20 and 25 per cent of the population is obese, making the county the obesity capital of the South East.

Dr Alison Barnett, director of public health for NHS Medway, said the trust runs a number of healthy weight schemes, including Mind Exercise Nutrition Do It (MEND) for families, Tipping the Balance for adults, and a new exercise referral scheme.

"None of these includes a financial incentive," she said.

"In our experience, people can be effectively supported to make lifestyle changes without financial incentives."

Health bosses in NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent said there is not enough evidence to show the true effects of incentive-driven weight loss.

This follows a £75,000 pilot scheme, funded by the NHS, called Pounds for Pounds which was rolled out in the Eastern and Coastal Kent area by independent company Weight Wins last year.

Two-thirds of the 402 volunteers who took part failed to reach their target weight despite a cash incentive of up to £425.

Rewards depended on the amount of weight lost, ranging from £70 for dropping 15lbs to £425 for losing 50lbs and keeping it off for six months.

Those who completed the course lost an average of two stone.

An independent evaluation of the results found that although financial incentives worked for some people, the high drop-out rate meant more needed to be done to look at the incentive-driven schemes.

Claire Martin, acting assistant director of public health for NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, said in challenging economic times the trust needed to make sure it was investing money wisely in programmes that showed long-term benefits.

She added: "Very often people lose weight, but when they stop their diet the weight returns within a short space of time.

"We need to invest in programmes that return a sustained weight loss and produce long-term health benefits."

## Big A-board ban

HARD-PRESSED businesses using A-boards on pavements could be forced to pay out for a new advertising sign after Kent County Council announced standardisation plans.

Officials say that for many shoppers, parents with prams, the elderly and those with visual impairments or mobility problems, A-boards can represent an obstacle.

The scheme will be first run in Maidstone.

## Sheep to flock city

A FLOCK of 20 Romney Marsh sheep will be driven through the streets of Canterbury on Sunday morning to raise awareness of the important role the cathedral plays in drawing tourists to Kent.

Shepherdess will be chairman of Visit Kent and Friend of Canterbury Cathedral, Amanda Cottrell. She will be joined in the procession – from Westgate Towers, along the High Street and to the steps of the cathedral – by the Very Rev Robert Willis.

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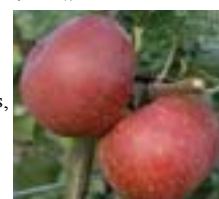
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# THE INTERVIEW



BY JANE CONNOLLY

## Intoxicated by spirit of classic Coward drama

LATER this month, the Pantiles Players will be getting into the spirit of great drama with a classic Noël Coward play.

Formed in 1942 to provide wartime entertainment, the amateur dramatics group is still going strong. After many years performing at the Pantiles in Tunbridge Wells, they now primarily stage their shows at Salomons in Southborough.

Their next production will be *Blithe Spirit*, the ethereal comedy in which a writer gets more than he bargained for when he invites a medium to conduct a séance in his house.

Director Sarah Truelove is a newcomer to the Pantiles Players, but she has plenty of experience in the field.

### Legendary

"I'm very heavily involved with the Rotherfield Players and I've done a lot of musicals and plays with them," she said. "I know Robert Chesterton, the chairman of the Pantiles Players, and he asked me to direct something for them."

When considering which play to stage as her first project with the group, it was easy to settle on a work by the legendary playwright.

"I chose it because I like Noël Coward and I love his style of writing," she said. "I love the story of *Blithe Spirit* and the possibilities of what you can do with the characters."

"Especially in *Blithe Spirit* as you have the medium, Madame Arcati. If you look at the film starring Rex Harrison and Margaret

Rutherford, it shows you can do so much with her character. You can rein her in a bit or give her eccentric moments during the medium bits."

Having trained as an actress at the Arts Educational School, Truelove embarked on a professional career and even worked with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

She gave up acting when she got married and now works as a medical secretary, but in her spare time she is in high demand as a director. It enables her to help people to explore the joy of drama and learn new things about themselves.

"You get people who are very scared of getting up on stage and they don't have much confidence, but drama, dance and music gives people that confidence," she said.

"They start to explore new sides to their personality, because it's not just about reading a script. It's about understanding characters, how they move and react. Children can be amazing. You see a little wallflower in the corner, then suddenly she's blossomed into this rose that will get up and do a solo."

"There is also a great social aspect to amateur dramatics. You get to meet like-minded people and you might discover a new talent."

*Blithe Spirit* can be seen at the Victorian Theatre at Solomons from Wednesday to Sunday, October 13-17. Performances start at 7.45pm daily with a matinee only at 3pm on the Sunday. Tickets cost £12/£10 for adults, £8 for children.

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## WORLD

## FIRST:

Surgeon Anan Shetty with Diane Stuttard, whose leg was shattered in a hit-and-run accident



# Surgeon performs stem cell op to save victim's leg

A SURGEON from Chatham has used stem cell technology to save the leg of hit-and-run victim in a world-first operation.

Diane Stuttard had been told she would lose her leg after being hit by a car while she walked home on a night out in 2001.

She was carried on the bonnet for three-quarters of a mile before being pushed off by the front-seat passenger.

Ms Stuttard, from Leeds in Yorkshire, was left with badly-broken lower leg bones and underwent 11 failed operations.

But she refused to give up hope, and contacted orthopaedic surgeon Anan Shetty at the private Spire Alexander Hospital in Chatham after hearing how he saved the leg of a climber using stem cells.

She told Sky News: "I was advised to have

By **MARIJKE COX**

the leg amputated by the surgeon in Leeds, but thankfully I said I wanted to wait until I had exhausted all avenues."

Surgeons from the Chatham hospital mixed stem cells from the bone marrow with a gel called Surgifill, which traps cells against fractures leading to healthy bone being formed.

To lengthen her shattered leg, surgeons cut into healthy sections of bone, injected more stem cells into the break and used a high-tech scaffold to pull the bone apart so it would grow one centimetre a month.

Although stem cell operations have been carried out before, this is the first time a combination of the cells, Surgifill and the leg-lengthening technique have been used anywhere in the world.

It will be 18 months before surgeons will know whether the bone has healed properly, but surgeons are optimistic.

Ms Stuttard said: "If this doesn't work, it would have to be an amputation. But I've not wanted to give up. I want to go walking and mountain climbing. It would be amazing to walk down the street without crutches and get back to some form of normality."

Orthopaedic surgeon Mr Shetty told Sky News he was confident the fracture will join up.

"We managed to cut out all the dead bone and get into bleeding bone, which means that it is healthy," he said.

"We also managed to use stem cells that will stimulate the bone to grow quicker."

Early scans of her leg following the hit-and-run had shown 6cm of Ms Stuttard's bone had become infected, preventing the fracture from healing.

## Winter flu jab plea

HEALTH trusts are calling on eligible patients to see their GPs for seasonal flu vaccinations. For the first time, all pregnant women are being offered the jab.

Anyone over 65 or with a long-term illness is also urged to have a vaccination.

Andrew Scott-Clark, NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent's deputy director of public health, said: "We strongly urge anyone who is eligible to take advantage of the free seasonal flu jab to protect themselves against the three types of flu in circulation, including swine flu."

## The flow of history

EVIDENCE of a medieval manor house and a previously unknown Roman road have been discovered by archaeologists excavating land for a new water supply.

The diggers were employed by South East Water to survey the 850-metre route, near Bearsted, before the company laid a new pipe.

Paul Clifford of South East Water said: "On schemes such as this we take the extra precaution of having archaeologists working alongside contractors to ensure that if we do find anything of historical significance we can halt work for further investigations."

## That's the spirit...

THE achievements of Kent's youngsters have been celebrated at the annual Spirit of Try Angle Awards.

The event – started by a KCC youth worker in 1994 – recognises those who have overcome personal struggles and made contributions to their community. Twenty-four youngsters were commended, with Chloe Wells, 14, from Margate, named overall winner.

Cllr Mike Hill, cabinet member for community services, said: "I never fail to be impressed by these young people and congratulate everyone who received an award."



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## Paedophile jailed over web images

A PAEDOPHILE who downloaded more than 62 hours of indecent movies of children onto his computer has been jailed for 10 months.

Andrew Leslie Wood was arrested following a search of his home in Bell Road, Maidstone, on October 7, 2009.

Kent Police's digital forensics unit took away the 59-year-old's computer and found a total of 125 movies involving child abuse.

There were also 30 indecent images of children.

Wood pleaded guilty to 13 counts of making/possession of indecent images of children and was sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court on Monday, September 27.

The paedophile claimed he looked at the images when drunk.

He was ordered to sign the sex offenders' register for 10 years and has also been issued with a Sexual Offences Prevention Order, preventing him from unsupervised contact with children and accessing the internet at home.

## What do you want for hospital site?

THE future of the Kent and Sussex Hospital site is up for debate through a series of public consultations.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust is moving out of the old building next year into its new state-of-the-art hospital at Pembury next summer.

The trust said it intends to sell the site with outline planning consent, which will be applied for later this year.

Public consultations will take place at the hospital's Choices restaurant on Saturday, October 2, between 10am-4pm, and on Monday, October 4, between, 4-8pm.

# Spoof village newspaper really is the end of world

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

"COUNCIL Killjoys: No More Cat Throwing" screams the headline from one of the many bizarre stories featured on the new Paddlesworth Press website.

When it comes to blurring fact with fiction, there are few more baffling ventures out there than this online newspaper spoof inspired by two very real Kentish locations.

Although the website has shamelessly stolen certain elements of the real-life Paddlesworth, near Folkestone – including village pub the Cat and Custard Pot – the make-believe community is based in the also-factual lost settlement of Paddlesworth, in Snodland, near Maidstone.

And to make things even more confusing, many of the characters featured in the stories have Facebook, Twitter or MySpace accounts which are regularly updated to keep the charade going.

Former Cambridge University student Stephen Eisenhammer, 23, is one of the co-creators of the website, which he describes as "the world's first mixed-media, collaborative novel".

He added: "We thought it would be exciting to let readers influence what happens in Paddlesworth. We only launched the site



**NAME GAME:** The website's fictional town has the same name as the Folkestone village

this week, but within a day we had people posting comments and claiming to be characters from our community, playing along and asking the editor to launch a campaign to save the cat-throwing tradition.

"What really thrilled us was the way we could lose the boundaries between us and the readers, because we felt there was a slight pointlessness in writing satirical papers without that interaction."

### Economic climate

In addition to the news stories, blogs and sports profiles included on the Paddlesworth Press website, there are other familiar newspaper sections such as horoscopes and letters.

The website is only planning to run for the next 10 weeks, as one of the main stories featured reveals the Earth will be wiped out at that point by an errant solar flare.

Mr Eisenhammer revealed that about 50 people work on the site, including television

stand-up comedian Jack Whitehall.

He added: "It's a reflection of the current economic climate because if we all had really good jobs then we wouldn't need to do it."

"We all remember the excitement of writing plays and editing newspapers at university, but now we've graduated to find there are no opportunities to do what we know we are good at."

"People were so keen to get involved with the project because it's so nice to have a forum on which to demonstrate your creativity."

Mr Eisenhammer revealed that although the fictional village of Paddlesworth has a Medway postcode, he has no idea where any parcels or letters sent to it will end up.

He also admitted he had not considered how those people living in the real-life community near Folkestone might feel about the light-hearted identity theft.

"I'm sure they'll see the funny side," he said.

Go to [www.paddlesworthpress.co.uk](http://www.paddlesworthpress.co.uk) to read more news about the village.

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# Old soldier works with comrades back in the real world

By **MARIJKE COX**

A FORMER Army soldier has launched an online business to help fellow ex-servicemen adjust to everyday civilian life.

Tens of thousands of British troops face losing their jobs as a result of the forthcoming government spending cuts, and Rochester entrepreneur Mark Jennings says many will find it a shock to the system if they are forced to leave the financial security of the Armed Forces.

In July, a study by the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) revealed that between April and June this year, more than 230 former and current servicemen and women were arrested throughout Kent – an average of four a day – with a third for violent crime.

The majority were men aged between 18 and 29, with almost half unemployed.

Mr Jennings – a former Army corporal who served for 16 years – said part of the problem stemmed from the lack of structure in the real world compared to the regimental nature of the forces.

He explained: "There's plenty of help out there when it comes to CV-writing and interview techniques, but no-one deals with simple things like how people in the business world speak and dress. Also, in the forces it's all about duty and putting other people in front of

## Ex-officer helps servicemen put on their civvies

you, but in the working world it's every man for himself nine times out of 10.

"Also, when you're a soldier, rent is taken out of your wages so you don't need to worry about it, but then when you leave you have to do all that yourself and some people struggle.

### Struggling

"Having to be your own administrator can come as something of a shock."

Mr Jennings' new Stormchasers venture – located at [www.leavingthearmedforces.com](http://www.leavingthearmedforces.com) – seeks to teach ex-service personnel how to set up their own online businesses while easing

their progression into other jobs and teaching them how to put the skills they learned in the forces to good use.

The site has been online since the beginning of September but Mr Jennings, admits things have got off to a slow start.

He said: "I don't think the ex-servicemen who are struggling are going to look on the net for a solution. Now we need to go offline to be able to help them, which is why I'll be contacting organisations like Combat Stress and the Royal British Legion to make sure we can reach the people who need us."

Call 01634 251079 for more information.



HELPING G HAND: Mark Jennings

## Musical tribute to heroes

AN RAF drum major is paying tribute to his World War Two predecessors by releasing an album in their honour.

Flight Sergeant Terry Gardner, 45, from Margate, is one of 36 members of the Central Band of the RAF who are hoping to storm the charts with their Official Album of the Battle of Britain, which was released on Monday.

Classic works such as Fanfare for the Common Man and the Dambusters March are included on the track-listing, as well as musical versions of Winston Churchill's history-changing speeches.

Fit Sgt Gardner, who has served for 27 years in the RAF, is the central figure on the album cover and also appears on a first class stamp commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

"They were amazing," he said of the thousands of British airmen involved in the conflict. "I don't think we will ever have anything like it again.

"I know we go to places like Afghanistan, but at least we have time to prepare for it. These guys were doing it day in, day out, going out on three or four sorties a day and not knowing if they'd make it back alive.

"They were absolutely incredible and we all owe them a great deal."

Fit Sgt Gardner has been playing the trombone since the age of six, and signed up to the Central Band shortly after joining the RAF in 1983.

Since then, he has served in Germany and Turkey, while also commanding the musical troops at remembrance services and marches throughout the UK.

Dedicated to all those who fought for their country in the Battle of Britain, the album stormed to the top of Amazon's pre-release chart last month – beating the likes of Eric Clapton and Phil Collins.

"We've released a few albums before. It's been a long time since we've been asked to do one, but Decca Records approached us.

"It's been really exciting to get back into the recording studio," said Fit Sgt Gardner.

"We're the biggest asset the RAF has got when it comes to public relations. People enjoy watching us march and listening to our music at the various events we perform at, and they leave with a positive image of the RAF in mind."



Fit Sgt Terry Gardner

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## Memorial vandals clean up their act

GRAFFITI vandals who scrawled their names on a war memorial were made to clean them off after being caught in north Kent.

The boys, aged 12 and 14, used marker pens to scribble tags on cannons in Fort Gardens, Gravesend, on Saturday, September 18.

Officers in plain clothes were called to the café area following reports of the vandals climbing on the roof.

After arresting those responsible on suspicion of criminal damage, the boys' parents agreed that they should repair the damage caused by washing it off the next day.

PC Amy Nix said: "They realised quite quickly that they had been found out and that we had the evidence to prove what they had been up to.

"Their parents fully supported the police and happily volunteered their sons to come back to clean it up.

"Not only did the boys learn a lesson, but people nearby could see they were being made to put right the damage they had caused."

## Serviceman, 26, dies after collapse

TRIBUTES have been paid to a serviceman who died suddenly at Royal Air Force HQ at the weekend.

Senior aircraftman Darren Foster, 26, from Chatham, collapsed at the Air Command base in Naphill, High Wycombe, last Saturday. He was rushed to hospital, where he later died. The cause of death is unknown.

Mr Foster's commanding officer, Group Captain Andy Huggett, said: "Senior Aircraftman Darren Foster had very quickly become an integral part of a close-knit team, known for his reliability, dedication, loyalty and keen sense of humour.

"A fun-loving and popular individual who took advantage of every aspect of military life, Darren loved military history and his main ambition was to serve in Afghanistan.

"Our prayers and thoughts are with his family and girlfriend at this sad time."

SAC Foster joined the RAF in January, 2009, and was posted to Air Command after graduating as a personnel clerk in September. He won the best student award for his course.

# Partners provide extra reach for long arm of law

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

KENT Police have lauded the early success of a serious crime partnership with Essex, despite it being 18 months away from being fully operational.

Based in Northfleet, near Gravesend, the Serious Crime Directorate tackles big-league offenders causing problems in both counties, such as armed robbery gangs, drug smugglers and serial car thieves.

Although the new division will not be fully implemented until April, 2012, the man in charge – Kent's Assistant Chief Constable Alan Pughsley – believes the early signs are promising.

He said: "The message at the moment is that the Serious Crime Directorate is here and is having a real impact on the people who cause us the most harm.

"Once all the other departments are finalised, we will be more successful than we already have been in the short time the command structure has been in place.

"To deliver what it has in a period of transition is outstanding. When that transition has finished, we'll be better than ever."

The Kent and Essex forces agreed to team up because of the similar problems faced by

both, as well as their broadly similar numbers and organisation.

Mr Pughsley says that since the beginning of September the directorate has solved 60 offences. These include crimes tackled as part of Operations Pint and Julius, both of which involved London thieves stealing high-value cars in Kent and Essex.

"It makes a huge difference having police from both forces working side-by-side in the same room on the same problems," said Mr Pughsley.

"When you're investigating a particular crime you should always do a national check to see if any other force is too, but there would have been occasions in the past when two sets of people were looking at the same thing.

"The new partnership means we can also work with the Metropolitan Police in a much more cohesive way."

Last month, Chief Constable Ian Learmonth revealed that Kent Police

could lose 1,500 jobs if its budget is cut by 20 per cent in the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR), which will be published on October 20.

However, Mr Pughsley said he was confident the new directorate would escape relatively unscathed.

He said: "I think the CSR will affect policing universally, but we are in a very strong position in that both the chief constable and the Kent Police Authority are supportive of such a dedicated unit.

"I think the future is secure, but what we've got to make sure of is that we are as efficient and effective as we can be.

"Some of the work done by bringing the two forces together has already allowed us to look at how we can do things differently, and I'm sure as we work through the process we will find other ways to make savings."



**PRAISE:** Chief Con Pughsley

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# Closing services is 'putting finance before patient care'

A HEALTHCARE trust has been accused of putting money before patients after announcing the closure of the maternity and casualty departments at a hospital.

The temporary measure at Queen Mary's in Sidcup, which has been blamed on severe staffing problems, has resulted in neighbouring Darent Valley Hospital in Dartford having to expand its services to cope with an estimated 7,000 new patients and 1,000 new babies.

South London Healthcare NHS Trust says the closure will only be in place through winter, but members of the GMB union say they are convinced it will end up being permanent.

"Our members are angry and disappointed with the trust's recent announcement to close the departments, which provide an essential service to the surrounding areas," said GMB officer Frank Macklin.

"We believe the decision to close these services is purely a financial one.

"Since the new trust was formed (in April 2009), the emphasis has been on saving as much money as quickly as possible.

"Nearly every member of staff has seen their terms and conditions attacked as part of the trust's drives to make savings. There are currently more than 1,000 admin and clerical posts at risk of redundancy as well."

South London Healthcare was formed from the merger of three smaller hospital trusts, serving patients throughout Bexley, Bromley and Greenwich.

The decision to close the wards at Queen Mary's was taken following a clinical safety review which concluded there was a "serious shortage" of emergency medicine middle and junior-grade doctors and midwives.

It has been proposed that the A&E department will close at the end of November, and the maternity ward by mid-December while the trust attempts to recruit more staff.

As a result, NHS West Kent has been forced to expand services at Darent Valley Hospital to ensure it can cope with the expected huge influx of new patients.

It has increased capacity on its maternity ward and will be re-opening standby wards and hiring more staff.

The primary care trust is also asking patients to consider if they really need emergency care and to instead visit walk-in centres, GPs or chemists if they can.

Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust chief executive Susan Acott said: "We have been preparing for some time to manage the extra emergency and maternity activity from our colleagues at Queen Mary's.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

"Winter is our busiest and most demanding time of year, but we have an excellent, professional workforce who always put patients at the centre of everything they do."

Kent's expectant mothers have suffered a great deal of anguish over the last few months and are currently fighting controversial plans to close the maternity ward at Maidstone Hospital in favour of a centralised department at a new hospital in Pembury, Tunbridge Wells.

Katherine Murphy – chief executive of the

Patients' Association – said: "It is important patients and the public are consulted and made aware of any proposed changes to the delivery of healthcare in their area."

Referring to Darent Valley, she added: "NHS West Kent must ensure that by taking on additional patients, the quality of the services and standards of patient safety are maintained."

South London Healthcare chief executive, Dr Chris Streather, said: "We are sorry for the inconvenience this will cause to patients and we fully appreciate the reliance and affection people in Bexley have for these important services, but we have to have absolute confidence that we can ensure patient safety, and the evidence from our review is that we can't make this guarantee."

## Church robbed

THIEVES who desecrated a church altar and stole 150-year-old relics will probably make just £20 from their haul.

Parishioners at St Giles church in Wormshill, Sittingbourne, are so upset at the loss they have offered a reward of £500.

Hilary Nightingale, church spokesman, said: "It's upset a lot of people terribly. To desecrate an altar is, altogether, rather sad. Who ever took them can't have any feelings especially when the financial reward is so small."

Thieves made off with a heavy brass altar cross and two brass candlesticks which had been placed on the main altar, and two small brass vases from a side altar.

Despite the crime Ms Nightingale said the church doors would remain.

She said: "We've always left our doors open and we will continue to do so. The church remains a very important place to a lot of people.

"We are now using a wooden cross and candlesticks."

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## Supplement may kill, warn experts

RESIDENTS are being warned not to buy a potentially deadly mineral supplement.

The advice comes from Medway Council's Trading Standards Team after the Food Standards Agency issued an alert about a product known as Miracle Mineral Solution (MMS).

The FSA said that MMS is a 28 per cent sodium chlorite solution, equivalent to industrial-strength bleach. When taken as directed it can cause severe nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea, potentially leading to dehydration and reduced blood pressure.

If the solution is diluted less than instructed it could cause damage to the gut and red blood cells, potentially resulting in respiratory failure.

Medway Council's community safety boss Mike O'Brien said: "This product is being sold as an oral supplement and is also known as MMS. If you have any of this product you should stop using it immediately. If you have consumed MMS and feel unwell you should consult your doctor as soon as possible."

## African holiday village approved

THANET council has backed plans to build a holiday village on farmland.

Its planning committee approved the plans for the development at the Quex Park estate.

Quex will build 21 circular, solar-powered, thatched-roofed holiday homes, called African rondavels, on farmland in Birchington.

The plans include parking for 40 vehicles, accommodation for a warden, and a reception facility on a 4.1-hectare area of land just to the south-east of the farm shop and restaurant.

Quex owners say the holiday village will provide accommodation for people who wish to stay in Thanet and would boost tourism.

# Dancer Akai is keeping his feet on the ground

By **MARIJKE COX**

HE FIRST hit our screens as the tiny dancer who stole the nation's hearts with his jaw-dropping moves and baby-faced charm.

Combining impressive break-dancing with hip-hop choreography, Akai Osei wowed the judges on Sky1's Got to Dance, scooping first place and winning £100,000, along with the kudos of being one the UK's best dance acts.

But it didn't stop there.

In the seven months since winning the show, the 11-year-old has graced the stage of one of the world's leading performance venues, and hit the big screen in the British film Street Dance, which was released on DVD this week.

It features Britain's Got Talent 2009 winners Diversity, and 2008 winner George Sampson.

Akai has launched his own website, [www.akaiofficial.co.uk](http://www.akaiofficial.co.uk), giving updates on his progress and even selling Akai clothing for the most die-hard fans.

Blue Peter presenter Helen Skelton also became his dance pupil for a day, and he opened hip-hop rap trio N-Dubz's UK tour in March.

But the youngster, who lives in Orpington,

admitted the most nerve-racking moment since he sprung to fame was his first night in hip-hop musical Into the Hoods, at the Royal Festival Hall on London's Southbank.

"It was really scary - I didn't know what was going to happen," he told KOS Media.

"The audience loved it though, they were screaming. I loved doing Into the Hoods.

"Street Dance was very different because they could do lots of takes."

### Limelight

Akai has performed with dance troupe Flawless - finalists in Britain's Got Talent 2009 - and opened the UK tour for Diversity, the street dance group led by Akai's idol and judge on Got to Dance, Ashley Banjo.

Asked whether he would like to be in a street dance troupe, Akai said he liked dancing on his own - with one exception.

"I'd definitely like to dance with hip hop star Usher," he said.

The youngster is now adjusting to a life of fame, but he admitted to enjoying every moment.

"It's really good because most people notice



**FILM DEBUT:** Akai Osei is a rising star

me in the street. I'm in secondary school now, and on my first day it was hectic," he said.

"My friends try and do my dancing."

Despite being thrown into the limelight and being given access to some of the best choreographers in the business, Akai still comes up with his own moves.

His mum Jenny, 34, said he was also trying to broaden his talent with tap-dancing and piano lessons.

"He wants to do so much more," she said.

"Because he was in the Street Dance film and producers are interested in him for the second one, he is having to do screen tests. It means he'll be acting instead of just dancing."

She added: "It's absolutely amazing, we're so proud. He's been given so many opportunities and he's done lots of special appearances.

"But because he's only 11 he only dances at weekends or after school. He knows his education is really important."



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# Green to cut immigrant detention time

IMMIGRATION minister Damian Green has set up an asylum improvements project to try to reduce the amount of time illegal immigrants are locked up in detention centres, *writes Marijke Cox*.

The Ashford MP said the plan was to stop the indeterminate detention of migrants, as seen at the Dover Immigration Removal Centre, by getting their cases heard more quickly.

Mr Green spoke to KOS Media following the release of a report by the London Detainee Support Group, No Return, No Release, No Reason, which claimed the indefinite detention of immigrants who cannot be deported is "ineffective, inefficient and enormously damaging".

The study revealed two thirds of migrants held in detention centres – at a cost to the taxpayer of £68,000 per migrant per year – are never deported.

Authors of the report stated this was not cost-effective and was having a detrimental effect on the mental health of detainees, who had no idea how long they would be held before they were either deported or granted the right to stay.

## Locked up

In the Dover centre, which has space for 314 adult males, a study carried out in April revealed there were 20 cases in 2009-10 of individuals being locked up for more than a year.

Mr Green said one of his first actions as immigration minister was to look at improving asylum. "One of the things we must keep doing is

making sure cases and reviews get heard more quickly, to stop immigrants spending large amounts of time in detention which is bad for them and the taxpayer," he said.

"The reason why most immigrants are detained for such long periods is because they have to go through the judicial system and make legal representations."

Mr Green admitted he was worried about the new figures, which showed only one in three migrants detained for more than a year were deported.

"This is concerning if people that have no right to be in this country are staying here," he said. "In some cases Britain can't return them to their home country because it is too dangerous, but by and large, most of these people have no legal right to be in this country. If they

have no right to be here then they have to be removed. Some of them do return home voluntarily, which is better."

According to Mr Green, a recent report into conditions at the Dover Immigration Removal Centre showed conditions had improved.

But Vebi Kosumi, director of the Dover Detainee Visitor Group, said there needed to be a time limit put in place for how long detainees could be held there.

David Wood, strategic director for the criminality and detention group at the UK Border Agency, said the agency seeks to remove people with no legal rights to be in the UK as quickly as possible.

"However, where detainees refuse to co-operate with the removal or deportation process, their detention can be prolonged," he said.

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## Condom artist keeps mum

DON'T bother asking a controversial artist why he filled 2,000 condoms with plaster of Paris and then set about turning them into unusual works of art, because he won't tell you.

Christopher Sacre reckons it's much better if viewers take a look at the work in an exhibition and form their own conclusions. The show is at Chatham's Nucleus Gallery.

What he will confess to is that it took him 22 days to create the unique exhibition.

In all, he used 2,000 condoms, filled them with 750kg of liquid plaster, let them set, removed the

prophylactic and set about his craft. What he gave birth to deliberately remains a secret until the show opens.

The gallery will only say he has created a carpet of sculptured forms that will make up his art installation.

Mr Sacre, who works from a studio at the Arts Centre, is reluctant to explain his unusual choice of mould.

He said: "There were practical reasons why I chose to use condoms initially, but it started me thinking. I don't want to explain further – I want to the audience to come to their own conclusions

and interpret the installation from their own perspective."

To add to the mystery, he worked with other artists to create a distinct marketing campaign featuring posters, fliers and a short teaser film in which viewers can watch moving snapshots of the sculptures being made.

The untitled exhibition runs from, October 9-21, and is open Monday to Saturday, 10am-5pm.

The Nucleus Arts Centre is at 272 High Street, Chatham, admission is free and the works will be on sale.

For more information visit [www.christophersacre.com](http://www.christophersacre.com).



See what this man gave birth to after using 2000 condoms in 22 days

A MYSTERY: Christopher Sacre

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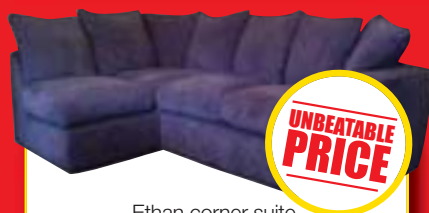
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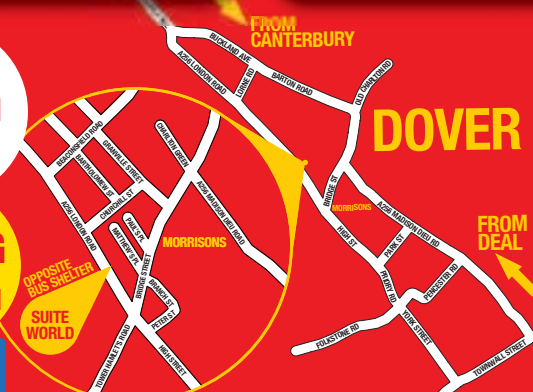


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## Super-fast broadband coming

SOME 55,000 homes and businesses are to benefit from £2.5 billion plans for super-fast broadband.

Eight BT exchange areas will be upgraded by autumn next year at Barming, Chatham, Deal, Greenhithe, Longfield, Minster Sheppey, Strood and Swanley.

The technology will be available on an open, wholesale basis to all companies providing broadband services.

Super-fast broadband, using fibre to street cabinets (FTTC), offers much faster download

speeds of up to 40Mbps, potentially rising to 60Mbps, and upstream speeds of 10Mbps, which could rise to 15Mbps in the future.

BT is also trialling broadband services with download speeds of up to 100Mbps.

BT's John Weaver said: "Fibre broadband has the power to revolutionise the way we use the internet. It has huge implications for the way we live."

"People in these areas will soon be able to experience the internet as they've never seen it before."

# 10-year sentence for road rage shooting

By IAN READ

A GUNMAN who shot a driver in the stomach during a road rage incident on a quiet country road has been jailed for 10 years.

Paul Smith, 46, also known to the police as Andrew Bywaters, was carrying a flare gun adapted to carry a single .22 round when he was confronted by angry driver James Saunders who he'd just cut up on Alkham Valley Road near Dover.

Smith was found guilty of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, and admitted possession of a firearm and three counts of possessing drugs.

He had previously pleaded not guilty to attempted murder.

He was on the run for nearly a week after the shooting on October 26 last year, Canterbury Crown Court was told.

He also has been given an extended licence of five years due to the seriousness of the offence and use of a firearm.

Smith, of Friars Way, Dover, said he was depressed after his brother's death and the birth of a daughter with a rare skin disease five days earlier.



JAILED: Gunman Paul Smith

Mr Saunders was shot in the stomach as he charged forward to remonstrate with Smith about his driving.

Oliver Saxby, defending, said his client was provoked by Mr Saunders.

He said: "Saunders flashed his lights and sounded his horn. Had he not stopped this wouldn't have happened. There was provocation."

Smith told police he was planning to kill himself and his daughter.

Police found 1.7 kilos of amphetamines worth £1,600 and small quantities of cannabis at his home following an extensive search.

Passing sentence, Judge Adele Williams said: "You fired a loaded

firearm at a complete stranger in what was undoubtedly road rage.

"You become unstable at times of crisis and present a significant threat to the public."

Smith was given a further five years for possessing the gun, plus a year for amphetamine possession and six months each on two cannabis charges, all to be served concurrently.

The court heard how Smith had bought the homemade firearm the night before and how he drove his Renault Megane at speed behind the Ford Fiesta driven by Mr Saunders who was en route to Kearsney Abbey in Dover.

During a confrontation, the pair began to push and shove before Mr Saunders heard a "loud crack". Smith got back in his car and drove off.

Mr Saunders realised he couldn't walk, then felt "excruciating pain" and could see blood.

He underwent surgery at William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, and had part of his bowel removed.

Smith eventually went to Folkestone police station to hand himself in.

Smith told officers "I shot him, I didn't mean to."

He admitted hiding the gun at Channel Gliding Club, Waldershare Park, Dover. Officers found two parts of the firearm, clothing worn by Smith and the Renault Megane.

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By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

DEADLY diseases may still exist in Kentish waters despite having laid dormant for hundreds of years, warns the author of a new book on cholera.

Hundreds of people died when an outbreak of the infection, thought to have been caused by poor living conditions near the Thames in Lambeth, south London, swept through the county in the mid-19th Century.

But despite only 35 cases of cholera having been reported in Europe since 2000, Amanda Thomas, author of *The Lambeth Cholera Outbreak of 1848-1849*, is warning that people should not be complacent.

She said: "I'd be very surprised if it still exists in the Thames because of all the cleansing work carried out there, but don't think it's gone away completely."

"On the one hand we can be too hygienic, which isn't good for our immune system, but washing your hands before you eat and after going to the loo is still very important."

"If your hobby is sailing and you're pulling wet ropes about all day then I would be particular about my hygiene, and I wouldn't advise anyone to go swimming in marinas either."

"I don't think cholera has left our shores so we need to be careful. It won't be terrorists or another war that kills the human race, it will be some sort of epidemic."

Cholera is an acute intestinal infection caused by ingestion of food or water contaminated with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*.

It produces an enterotoxin that causes a painless, watery diarrhoea that can quickly lead to severe dehydration and death if treatment is not promptly given.

In 2007 it was revealed that 90 patients had died at hospitals run by Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust following outbreaks of a different disease – *Clostridium difficile* (C diff) – between 2004 and 2006.

KOS Media then launched a hand-hygiene campaign to raise awareness about superbugs and to show how everyone can help to stop the spread of infection.

Mrs Thomas said the importance of hand-washing first came to public attention after the Lambeth cholera outbreak.

She added: "A lot of folklore about hand-washing probably stems from those cholera outbreaks, because once it's digested you can die very quickly. You can get it at breakfast and die by teatime."

"The areas worst affected in 1849 were places like Northfleet and Gravesend. Then it spread from there."

"It went to Medway then Dover in the space of three months, killing thousands of people. It was very nasty and would have been spoken about for years afterwards."

Mrs Thomas is a regular contributor to the *Friends of Medway Archives* (FOMA) newsletter, the *Clock Tower*.

• *The Lambeth Cholera Outbreak of 1848-1849* is available now, priced £37.95, through Amazon.



Amanda Thomas

# Hand-washing hygiene will never go out of date if you want to live

RED Dwarf star Danny John-Jules will be helping bikers to raise funds for the Kent Air Ambulance this weekend after a fellow rider was left fighting for his life.

John-Jules, who played Cat in the BBC sitcom, will be doing a few laps of Brands Hatch on his pink Yamaha R1 and signing autographs. The keen motorcyclist agreed to support the helicopter after it airlifted racer Craig Jennings who was seriously hurt in a crash at the circuit in July.

John-Jules said: "Being a biker myself, it would be a welcome sight to see an air ambulance if I was injured. If we raised enough money to help save someone's life, that would be great."

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A CHARITY that campaigns for the retention of traditional church services has appointed a youth officer to encourage young people to appreciate the Church of England's historic beliefs.

In his new role at the Prayer Book Society, the Rev Fredrik Arvidsson, a senior chaplain at The King's School in Canterbury, advises on working with young people using the 1662 Book of Common Prayer.

Mr Arvidsson said: "The Book of Common Prayer is a collection of ancient prayers for times when the community gathers."

Prayer Book Society's chairman, Prudence Dailey, says: "As school chaplain, he has been introducing young people to the Prayer Book."



# 'Gervais couldn't do it'

THE verbal punchbag of comedy genius Ricky Gervais admits he really would be stupid to agree to a second series of *An Idiot Abroad*, **writes Steve Knight**.

Karl Pilkington – who achieved cult status as the deadpan producer of Gervais's popular podcast show – is now a star in his own right thanks to the eight-part Sky1 documentary, which continues on Thursday.

But despite the show giving him the chance to visit all Seven Wonders of the World in just a few weeks, the 38-year-old Deal resident admits there were few highlights he will take from the trip.

"The Taj Mahal was the best and the pyramids were the worst," he said. "Chichen Itza [in Mexico] was a bit of nothing, really."

"The Great Wall of China? It's just a joke because a lot of it isn't even that old. It was restored in 1985 or something. It's like a lot of Wimpey homes in the 1980s – you look at the brick and just think, 'I could have bought that from Homebase'."

"And I'm not dissing religion or anything but I didn't get Christ the Redeemer. It's just a statue. The highest point, literally, would have to be Machu Picchu."

"But the real high point would probably be completing the journey, being at Heathrow after the last trip and going, 'I've done it.' It made me realise how happy I am with what I have."

Despite being described by Gervais as a "little round-headed buffoon", Manchester-born Pilkington is actually a respected producer in the radio world and was once head of production at Xfm.

Yet his unintentionally hilarious views on



**BRAVE NEW WORLD:** Karl Pilkington at Mexico's Chichen Itza and (inset) Ricky Gervais

the world have won him an army of fans, most of which are revelling in the torture he was put through by Gervais and his comedy sidekick Stephen Merchant in *An Idiot Abroad*. Pilkington said that despite being the butt of the pair's constant jokes, he was confident he handled starring in the show better than either of his friends would have.

"Steve might have been able to do a bit of it, but Ricky, not at all," he said. "Even though I went through all this, I feel like the winner because I've done things he'll never

do. He can keep his awards. I've been around the world. If I go to a party – which I won't – I've got more stuff to talk about."

"There's only so many times you can say, 'Look at this award, everyone.' But, if you go 'Have you ever shit in a tent? Have you ever had your leg set on fire? Have you been chased by bees?' That's the thing I'll take away from it all."

• *Episode three of An Idiot Abroad can be seen on Sky1 at 9pm on Thursday, October 7.*

## Emin art auction

A VERSION of Tracey Emin's pink neon artwork, *I Never Stopping Loving You*, which is on Droit House, Margate, is being sold to raise funds for Turner Contemporary Art Trust.

The trust supports development of the visual arts in Kent and is focusing on the new Turner Contemporary building in the resort.

Of the work, Ms Emin said: "It's a declaration of love for Margate from me. I want people to come off the train, walk along the seafront, hold hands, have a snog and say, 'I never stopped loving you.'"

For more information about the auction on October 13-14, visit [www.phillipsdeputy.com](http://www.phillipsdeputy.com).

## Tenants' voting

MORE than half of council tenants and leaseholders in east Kent have given their views ahead of a proposed shake-up of housing services. About 10,000 people took part in a consultation after Thanet, Canterbury, Dover and Shepway councils put forward plans to set up an arm's length management organisation (Almo) to manage housing stock. The authorities believe it could save about £1.5 million.

The consultation was sent to 18,000 people, with 52 per cent taking part.

Asked if they thought it was a good idea, 64 per cent of respondents said yes, 24 per cent were not sure and 12 per cent said no. A second question asked if they supported Thanet council joining the other three to form the Almo. Sixty-nine per cent said yes, 18 per cent weren't sure and 13 per cent said no.

A report will go to each of the councils, which will need to submit an application to transfer their housing management to any new set-up.

■ AN EMPTY shop window has been transformed into a raging fire scene in a bid to raise safety awareness.

The display in Sheerness High Street shows firefighters tackling a huge blaze and is designed to catch the public's eye before pointing them in the direction of safety tips.

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AW10 collection **River Island**

# Historic book star of TV auction



**SIGNED:** Flying Officer Brian Goodale's book on the Dam Busters fetched £900

## Flog It! contestants see their treasures go under hammer

By **CHRIS MURPHY**  
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A RARE signed book about the Dam Busters raids sold at an auction as BBC cameras rolled for its Flog It! programme.

In all, the two-day sale at Canterbury Auction Galleries raised more than £200,000 for sellers.

A contestant on the auction show was Vanessa Farnham, 58, of Whitstable, who was selling the Dam Busters book, by Paul Brickhill.

It had been signed by most of the heroes involved in the daring bouncing bomb raids on the German Ruhr dams.

After seeing another copy being valued on Antiques Roadshow for about £700 with fewer autographs, she was delighted to see hers raise £900 when it was sold to a collector in Deal.

### Unpaid bill

Mrs Farnham's edition had been owned by Flying Officer Brian Goodale of 617 Squadron, the only wireless operator to be awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and bar during World War Two.

He was also a member of the AJ-L 'Leather' crew, which survived the first wave of the attacks on the Eder.

F/O Goodale, nicknamed 'Concave', stayed at Mrs Farnham's parents' hotel in Northern Ireland in the 1960s, but failed to return one night, leaving his belongings, an unpaid bill – and the book – behind in his room.

He later died in Cambridge Hospital in 1977.



**CRICKET COLLECTION:** These signed photographs and a notebook full of cuttings from the 1940s and 1950s sold for £210

Signatories included Barnes Wallis, who invented the famous bouncing bomb which was tested off the Kent coast at Reculver, along with air ace Johnnie Johnson and Leonard Cheshire, who was Guy Gibson's successor as squadron commander after Gibson was killed later in the war.

Another Flog It! contestant sold three autographed cricket photographs: the South African Team of 1947; the New Zealand Touring Team of 1949; and the West Indies Touring Team of 1950.

They were offered together with a notebook containing a selection of other autographs, photographs and newspaper cuttings of various cricketing teams in the 1940s and 50s, and sold to a bidder in Oxfordshire for £210.

A Ramsgate contestant saw her Daum Nancy cranberry inlaid tinted glass vase, left, sell for £660, way above the £80 estimate.



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# World comes to harbour town

By **JAMES ALEXANDRE**

james.alexandre@kosmedia.co.uk

ONE of the most ambitious public arts projects ever to be held in the UK returns to Folkestone next year, with a host of new works announced.

The opening up of the Martello 4 tower for the first time in years, and hundreds of model ships descending from a church ceiling, are among the expected highlights of the 2011 Folkestone Triennial.

A former deckchair storage hall under the Leas will be turned into a cinema, and a life-size bronze statue of one local woman will be unveiled in the pose of Copenhagen's famous Little Mermaid.

The three-yearly exhibition was first launched in 2008 by arts regeneration charity the Creative Foundation and the line-up for next year's event was announced at a reception at The Grand hotel.

Curator Dr Andrea Schlieker told KOS Media: "The first Triennial was very much centred on Folkestone itself; it became a kind of polyphonic portrait of the town."

"The next Triennial is called A Million Miles from Home and centres on Folkestone's geographical position as a gateway and a portal, and it's much more about bringing the wider world to Folkestone."

"So whereas the first time we looked in, this time we're looking out."

Internationally-acclaimed artists from countries including Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, India and Brazil will have their works featured, together with the world-renowned Spanish artist Cristina Iglesias and Scottish-born Hew Loch, who is currently nominated to create a work for the fourth plinth in Trafalgar Square.

The circular brick building of Martello 4, which is overgrown with thick ivy and vegetation, will be made visible again by Iglesias's sculpture on the tower's ramparts.

A walk-in viewing platform will let peo-

ple see the tower – which was originally built in 1804 to defend Britain from a Napoleonic invasion – and its moat, together with its undisturbed wildlife.

Hew Loch, who was raised in Guyana, plans to suspend about 100 model ships collected from around the world in the nave of St Mary and St Eanswythe's Church, Folkestone's oldest building.

Zineb Sedira will make a film about Cap Caxine lighthouse in Algeria, focusing on its role, history and symbolism, to be shown in the deckchair hall built into the Leas cliff, which has been boarded up for decades and will be open to the public for the first time.

Turner Prize-nominated Cornelia Parker will create a Folkestone version of the bronze Little Mermaid statue in Copenhagen, with townswomen of every size, shape and age invited to come forward as potential models.

The final candidate from a shortlist of six will be announced in November, with the 'Folkestone Mermaid' to be placed on the east-end of The Stade.

Artworks from the 2008 Triennial remain on permanent public display around Folkestone, including Nathan Coley's illuminated light sign in Tontine Street called Heaven Is A Place Where Nothing Ever Happens, and Tracey Emin's seven small bronzes, Baby Things.



LOOKING OUT: Curator Dr Andrea Schlieker



REFLECTIONS: Cristina Iglesias's work will be at the Martello 4 tower



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## Bishop's call to get involved

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has called on churchgoers to make a "God-shaped difference" by re-engaging with their communities.

Dr Rowan Williams said people had become fearful of the "nasty questioning moments" of life, and had become too willing to ignore the suffering of others.

The leader of the worldwide Anglican Communion made the comments at a rare Kent appearance in Great Chart, near Ashford, to mark Back to Church Sunday.

Dr Williams used an analogy of a recent trip to India to help illustrate his point, describing how he became desensitised to beggars in the street.

He said: "The first couple of days I was there I was deeply upset by the numbers of beggars in the street."

"After about two weeks I realised I had stopped noticing. 'Oh,' I thought. 'Another beggar.'"

"I realised with some shock how easy it is to stop seeing other people's needs and other people's poverty and other people's suffering."

"It's the default setting."



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## Health magazine up for PR award

AN NHS magazine has been shortlisted for an award. NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent's Your Health is up for the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR) PRide Awards which recognise public relations successes.

The cover story on the latest edition of the one-year-old Your Health title – The Big C: Can We Talk About It? – focuses on raising awareness of the signs and symptoms of east Kent's three biggest killers, breast, bowel and lung cancer.

It includes real-life stories from patients in east Kent who have battled the disease, and information on chemotherapy, screening programmes and research, plus advice on how patients can reduce their cancer risk.

Editor Julia Rogers said: "Cancer is a scary subject and one in three of us will get it at some point of our lives. But we shouldn't be afraid to talk about it."

The magazine is designed, printed and distributed by KOS Media. The winner of the award will be announced on November 19.

Pick up a copy from GP surgeries, hospitals or read it online at [www.yourhealthcheck.nhs.uk](http://www.yourhealthcheck.nhs.uk).

## Car found in lake

A FORD Fiesta was just one of the items found in Mote Park lake when the water level was lowered for council workers to remove a log lodged at the main sluice gate.

Maidstone council's Cllr Richard Ash said: "Lowering the water level revealed several items of rubbish which had long since vanished beneath the water line. These include a host of shopping trolleys and a car."

Using an industrial chain and some heavy-duty machinery, the workers managed to haul the rusty car out of the lake.

The lake's sluice gates are back working properly now and the water levels will return to normal over the next week.

# 'Past matters to the present'



**FIND: A piece of jewellery**

ANCIENT artefacts discovered in the remains of one of the UK's most significant Roman villas have been used to highlight the importance of archaeology in Kent.

Academics from Canterbury Christ Church University and the Council for British Archaeology South East focused a three-day conference on A Town Unearthed: Folkestone before 1500 – a community project involving the excavation of a Roman building at East Wear Bay.

Archaeologists began digging exploratory trenches in the remains in August, 20 years since the site was last excavated.

An update of progress was given at the meeting at the University Centre Folkestone at the weekend, which saw experts discuss the importance of archaeology and heritage to communities in the 21st century.

Dr Lesley Hardy, senior lecturer for the

By **MARIJKE COX**

[marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk)

university's department of history and American studies and lead on the project, said archaeology has a central place within the interests of the British public.

"The conference explored why the pursuit of the past through archaeology has become so important to us – its role within media, art, literature and history," she said.

Key speakers discussed topics including representations of archaeology in culture, archaeology and the community and education, and identity and ownership of the past.

Andrew Richardson, project manager, said a great deal of unexcavated archaeology survives across the site.

"One of the most interesting discoveries so far is an unfinished quern stone, used for grinding corn," he said. "It's been known for some years that a quern stone industry, dat-

ing to around 2,000 years ago, existed at East Wear Bay, as many stones have been found at the site and on the beach below.

"Very few quern production sites have been identified and this new discovery reinforces Folkestone's position as an internationally important Iron Age site."

The project also involves a programme of education and community events that will run over the next three years in Folkestone.

Those behind the scheme aim to help residents understand their local heritage and become involved in unearthing Folkestone's past and preserving its future.

The project is funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund award and is being led by Canterbury Christ Church University, Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Folkestone People's History Centre, with support of the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust, Folkestone Town Council and Shepway District Council.

Email [townunearthed@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:townunearthed@canterbury.ac.uk) or call 01303 850614 to help the project.

## Meet the Designers at Jacksons Best of Kent Garden Event

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We are also celebrating the **Best of Kent** with stands showcasing the region's finest garden related companies. There will also be a chance to buy fantastic food and drink produced locally in the Garden of England - mouth-watering cakes, artisan baked breads, delicious cheeses, preserves, traditional cider and more.

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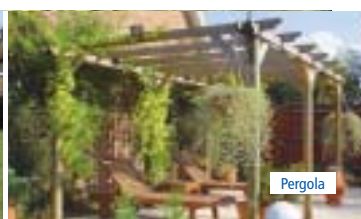
The Float Garden by Heather Appleton



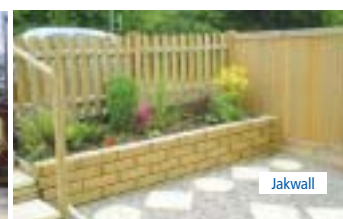
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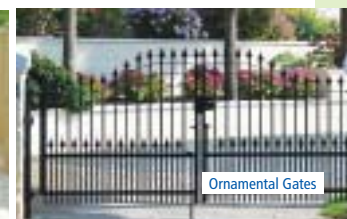
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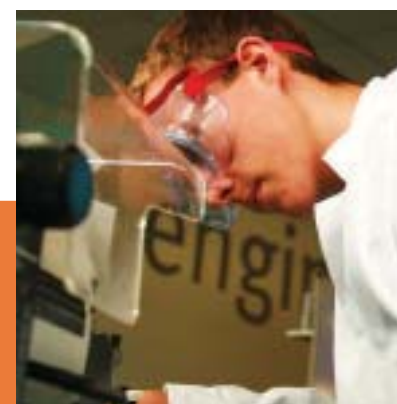
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# We're getting back our taste for local food

FOODIES are returning to their Kentish roots by opting for traditional dishes over more exotic cuisine, *writes Marijke Cox.*

Dinner-time habits are rapidly changing, with foreign food such as Indian, Thai and Chinese being pushed aside in favour of local produce.

The findings were revealed in a study by Brakes Group, an international supplier to the food service sector, based in Ashford, which found 76 per cent of diners believed restaurants in the county should be serving regional food.

And more than half said it was important for eateries to offer customers speciality dishes representing the county.

The most popular dishes found through the research included ploughman's, roast dinners, toad-in-the-hole, stews, bangers and mash, and fish and chips.

James Armitage, marketing director at Brakes, said caterers should put classic British dishes back on the menu.

"This study has uncovered a revealing picture of diners' relationships with British food in the eat-out sector," he said.

"Putting good-quality, seasonal produce from regional suppliers on the menu is an important way of helping the environment by reducing food miles and supporting regional farmers. It's also a sure way of meeting soaring demand for British ingredients



from consumers who are much more interested in provenance and seasonality than they were just a few years ago."

The study follows the annual British Food Fortnight, which saw events take place across the county between September 18 and October 3, including the Broadstairs Food Festival, Kentish Food Week, and the Kent Food and Drink Festival in Canterbury.

Mr Armitage added: "British Food Fortnight is a fantastic opportunity to shine a spotlight on the best of British."

Dave Flynn, owner of The Allotment in Dover, said it was vitally important that people chose local produce to eat.

His restaurant, which is mentioned in the Good Food Guide 2010 and 2011, uses Kent suppliers and allotment owners in the community who sell him their excess produce.

"From my point of view, it means working with people in the local community, which is what should be done everywhere," he said.

"It's cutting out the middle man and it makes sense in terms of everyone doing well. It also means food is seasonal and fresh."

Mr Flynn said his restaurant has received excellent feedback since it opened three years ago.

"We offer a variety and it's all fresh," he said.

Figures from the Brakes study showed 80 per cent of people thought it was important to support local food producers and 76 per cent said they believed it was important for restaurants to serve seasonal food.

## German train has test run in Tunnel

A GERMAN high-speed train will have a test run through the Channel Tunnel ahead of a possible new service between London and Frankfurt.

The 200mph ICE-3 train, operated by Germany's state-run railway Deutsche Bahn, will make the maiden voyage on Tuesday, October 19.

It is hoped this will lead to the opening up of the European railway market, with passengers able to travel between Europe's two leading financial centres for as little as £49 one-way.

Reports claim the direct non-stop journey is possible in three hours and 55 minutes, compared with the estimated four-and-a-half hours needed to get between each place by plane once travel to the airport, check-in and flight time are counted.

Stops at Cologne, Brussels and Lille are also being considered.

Safety authorities have relaxed conditions to allow the DB train to pass through the tunnel for tests – it could come into service as early as December, 2013.

A spokesman for Deutsche Bahn said: "DB is committed to introducing high-speed rail services between London and Germany, enhancing connectivity between these two countries. Services are expected to start at the end of 2013."

"Work has already commenced with safety, infrastructure and regulatory bodies across Europe in order to meet all the requirements necessary to operate these trains."

Eurostar is currently the only passenger service that operates through the tunnel, which runs to Paris and Brussels from London St Pancras via Ashford International.

NEARLY a dozen chimney fires took hold across the county last weekend, prompting fire bosses to issue safety advice.

Crews were called to houses in Gillingham, Borough Green, Cranbrook, Marden, Wye, Canterbury, Sundridge, Milstead, Plaxtol and Sittingbourne between Friday and Sunday.

In total, firefighters responded to 11 incidents. This compares with just five similar calls during the whole of September last year.

Kent Fire and Rescue's community safety manager Lawrence Pater said: "Fires of this nature can smoulder undetected for some time and present serious risk to your home and family."

"If you use an open fire, make sure your chimney is kept clean and has been recently swept, as build-ups of soot and ash can cause fires."

"Before going to bed, make certain the fire is out or pushed to the back of the grate and use a guard to prevent any sparks hitting carpets."

## Cubs go Back to the Future

MORE than 2,000 Cubs from across Kent will descend on the County Showground at Detling, near Maidstone to take part in the Back to the Future Challenge this weekend.

Cubs are raising money for the Kent Kids Miles of Smiles charity which cares for sick and disabled children.

Back to the Future is the start of the celebrations to commemorate 95 years of the Cubs movement, and youngsters will get the chance to try their hand at 95 activities, ranging from tackling the sports time travel challenge to looking at what the Cub Scouts might be doing in the future.

## Abusive 999 hoaxter jailed

A HOAX caller who repeatedly abused the 999 emergency service has been jailed for three months.

Shane Gaudoine, 52, of Hawthorn Road, Dartford, was sentenced by Medway magistrates after pleading guilty to breaching the terms of an anti-social behaviour order that prevented him from making unmerited calls to the line's operators.

Insp Chris Norfolk said: "Shane Gaudoine's persistent and sometimes abusive calls had the potential to impact on our response to real emergencies."

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# Ed's good news for Kent, say ex-MPs

Picture: CBI



ED MILIBAND: The next Prime Minister?

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

ED MILIBAND'S leadership is the "end of New Labour", say the party's former Kent MPs, who have welcomed his victory in the battle to replace Gordon Brown.

The ex-MPs also claimed that Mr Miliband, who narrowly beat his brother David in the leadership battle, was the man who would win back the support of the county's voters.

Derek Wyatt, former MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, said New Labour, which was introduced by Tony Blair in 1997, had not been successful in recent years and it was crucial for the party that changes were made.

## Frontline

"I don't think Labour members in Kent lost confidence, but the voters did," he said.

"A lot of people said they didn't vote Labour in May because they were fed up with the party. No brand lasts for ever, so something needed to change. Some of us were sick of the Blair and Mandelson soap opera. Ed has come in and said enough is enough – it's the end of New Labour.

"I voted for him and I was doing his campaigning. He can take the party forward and win back Kent's voters."

Mr Wyatt, who was unable to attend the Labour conference, told KOS Media ahead of David Miliband's announcement on whether he would take a position on the shadow cabinet, that he believed the elder brother, who was expected to win the leadership contest, would step down from frontline politics.

THE Conservatives wasted no time in attacking Ed Miliband – and the charge was led by Sevenoaks MP Michael Fallon, deputy chairman of the party.

Mr Fallon said: "Ed Miliband's been promising for months that he'd tell us how he'd deal with the deficit. While Alistair Darling's proposed cuts have been condemned as inadequate by everyone from the IMF to the Bank of England, Ed Miliband won't even commit to going that far.

"He can't say whether he'd go faster or slower, would cut or tax, and won't support a single cut, other than ID cards. The man without a plan clearly doesn't know whether he's coming or going."

"I don't think he'll sit on the shadow cabinet," he said. "I wouldn't be surprised if he went to work for Hilary Clinton in the USA or at Harvard University for a year."

In May's general election all of Kent's seven Labour MPs lost their seats.

Former MP for Dover and Deal, Gwyn Prosser, also thought David Miliband would step away from frontline politics.

"I'd like him to stay, he'd make a good contribution, but it's a double-edged sword," he said. "If he became shadow chancellor it would give people the opportunity to count every word he says, looking to see whether he is disagreeing with his brother and going back to the Blair and Brown days."

But unlike his former colleague's opinion that Ed Miliband's first speech as leader was "terrific", Mr Prosser said it was "not great".

"It was a good speech, it covered most of the areas I wanted it to cover, but I don't think he's a natural orator," he said.

"To be voted in against the odds and to make a leader's speech after that, and all the

attention and excitement surrounding him and his brother, is a lot of pressure.

"He'll get stronger and is a leader who can take us into the next election. He made it clear there was a new generation coming through and New Labour had run its course."

Mr Prosser said he believes Mr Miliband, who visited the county in July, will reach out to the South East, particularly more deprived areas such as Thanet and Dover.

"In the run-up to the General Election he talked a lot about the South East and Kent.

"Ed said we hadn't really been listening to them and we should have been in recent years. From 1997 until 2001, we made changes that meant people in Kent and the rest of England were comfortable. But in the last four years we haven't been listening.

"Ed is confronting things such as immigration that Gordon Brown was too precious to do. He is talking about optimism, which contrasts with what David Cameron has been saying."

## Determined

Paul Clark, former MP for Gillingham and Rainham, said although he helped in the leadership campaign for Ed Balls, he voted for Ed Miliband as his second choice.

"I thought his speech oozed the message of leadership," said Mr Clark. "It will take more than one speech, but people in Kent will think here's a man who knows his own mind and is determined to make sure the coalition is only a one-term government."

Former Chatham and Aylesford MP Jonathan Shaw, ex-Medway MP Bob Marshall-Andrews and ex-Dartford MP Howard Stoute were unavailable for comment.

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# LETTERS

## LETTER OF THE WEEK

### Remembering road victims

It is surprising that such a fuss and ceremony can be made about a comparatively trivial skirmish, which took place more than 70 years ago on Graveney Marsh – one that involved less than a handful of Germany aircrew and which terminated at the local pub.

To this day, there is another more critical battle that continues to be waged on British soil; one which has accounted for 250,000 to 300,000 lives nationally over the same 70-plus years period, and which has a toll that continues to grow. Over the period covered by the Iraq war and Afghanistan deployment, there have been some 30,000 deaths (and serious injuries) as a result of vehicle crashes.

So far this year there have been approximately one million deaths world wide.

So where is the monument to honour and commemorate all these deaths and those maimed? Doesn't anybody care?

However, there will be commemorative/memorial services on the November 21, organised by volunteer members of RoadPeace. Details at [www.roadpeace.org](http://www.roadpeace.org)

*Ted Prangnell, Kennington*

### Airport threat to our wildlife

The RSPB welcomes the recently-announced proposals by Natural England to extend the Dungeness Special Protection Area (SPA) and its designation as an international wetland site (Ramsar Site).

Dungeness SPA is an expanse of coastal wetlands of European importance for breeding and wintering waterbirds, and an important stopover for migrants.

The area is one of the best in Europe for its wildlife and has some of our most spectacular and beautiful habitats. The shingle landscape is home to a unique range of wildlife – from lichens, leeches and newts to butterflies, bees and huge flocks of birds.

The protection levels given to the area, and the proposals to increase these, highlight its importance both nationally and internationally.

Just this summer a pair of purple herons successfully bred at the RSPB's Dungeness reserve – a first for the UK. Bitterns also bred for the first time on the site this year, following improvements to the specialist reedbed habitat.

Such successes highlight the importance of this site for rare birds, which come here seeking sanctuary.

The proposals to designate a larger area of Dungeness, Romney Marsh and Rye Bay as sites of conservation importance, comes at the same time as the owners of neighbouring Lydd Airport are preparing for a public inquiry into their own expansion plans.

## OPINION: FACING UP TO POWER CRISIS

The answer's not blowing in the wind, despite the Government's promises, according to UKIP MEP for the South East **NIGEL FARAGE**

**B**RTAIN faces a power crisis of unimaginable proportions. Our generating capacity is degrading at a rapid pace, and according to energy minister Chris Huhne, we face power blackouts in a few years.

Indeed, we are looking at a shortfall of at least 40 per cent as our elderly nuclear and conventional gas, coal and oil power stations reach their dotage. As they close, the spectre of fuel poverty will continue to raise its head.

During last winter, that coldest of cold snaps, according to official statistics, thousands of pensioners died because they were unable to afford to heat their homes. Sadly this is just the beginning.

Our economy runs on power. After wages, the biggest cost to most businesses is energy. We have all seen domestic bills soar in recent years, cutting into our disposable income and making life much less pleasant. How can this be?

It is not as if we don't know that we need power, it is not as if siren voices haven't been warning us for at least a decade that unless we seriously invest in energy generation we will be back to candles and watermills.

Only last week, Mr Huhne was bobbing self-importantly around in the midst of the Great Thanet wind farm. He, too, is worried about the shortfall in our energy supply, and he, like so many of our political and social elite, sees developments like the Swedish Vattenfall's wind farm as the only way forward. It isn't, and here is why.

They need back-up power (read conventional power stations – the ones that are closing down) running continuously in case the wind stops blowing. Even if they did work as we are told, to supply the UK's energy needs of 78GW we would require at least 78,000 5MW turbines. The Government boasts that we have 4,500 of them. They are not self-funding like other kinds of power, and can only survive with subsidies such as the upwards of 14 per cent secretly added to

everybody's electricity bill to pay for our EU-inspired Renewable Energy Obligation.

And you thought the wind was free? They are unreliable and the power from them is unpredictable. The Government talks about full capacity – at best they run at 26 per cent, which means you can only expect to get 1MW from a 4MW turbine.

They fail to provide jobs. Vattenfall boasts that East Kent will get 21 jobs in Ramsgate, but the company will get £1.2 billion in subsidy over the next 20 years, if they last that long. We have no idea how much maintenance will cost. Anybody who lives near the sea will tell you about the ability of salt to gum up the works. These precision instruments will break down.



If we are worried about power then sadly these ornaments, these vanity projects will never provide the power we need. According to figures released this week by the Government's own UK Energy Research Centre, the energy produced at Thanet over the projected 25 year lifespan of the farm, measured in megawatt hours, is expected to be £149 a pop. That compares with £80 for coal and gas, and £97 for nuclear power. Costs have increased for all generation, but offshore wind farms are way the most expensive.

This is, of course, madness but it is the collective lunacy of our political class. Two years ago, Parliament near unanimously supported the Climate Change Act. This forces us to cut our CO2 emissions by 80 per cent by 2050, at a cost of up to £18 billion a year, or £734 billion in total. They have done this to apply EU rules.

What they don't tell you is that they are slowly seeing through the climate scam themselves. Only in June at the Bilderburg conference of world leaders the agenda read: "The conference will deal mainly with financial reform, security, cyber technology, energy, Pakistan, Afghanistan, world food problem, global cooling, social networking, medical science, EU-US relations."

Did you see that? "Global Cooling". They know they are defrauding us. What Kent needs, what Britain needs is Dungeness C.

• *Nigel Farage is a UKIP South East MEP, and lives in Westerham.*

The RSPB has always argued that an expanded airport in this area is inappropriate. Any further development of Lydd airport threatens the ability to protect this special place which provides space for both wildlife and the people who come here to enjoy it.

The public inquiry into the airport expansion plans will start on February 15.

People can send their views on the airport plans for the attention of the Inspector (KD Barton BA (Hons) DIPARCH) c/o: Leanne Palmer, Room 4/02 Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN, or you can email: [leanne.palmer@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:leanne.palmer@pins.gsi.gov.uk).

*Chris Corrigan, RSPB South East director*

### Miliband is great leader

The election of Ed Miliband as the new leader of my party is not just good news for the Labour Party, it's very good news for the people of the

Folkestone and Hythe constituency. As the very first Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, he more than anyone understands the danger this constituency faces from global warming and violent unpredictable weather.

During his time as Secretary of State, millions of pounds were invested in strengthening the sea defences from Lydd to Dymchurch against rising sea levels and the horrendous consequences that will follow if they are ever to be breached. Under his stewardship he led the way in championing wind energy across Romney Marsh and the world's largest offshore wind farm near Thanet, significantly reducing the country's future carbon footprint and putting the UK to the forefront in developing 'greener' energy technologies.

These policies will have profound long-term benefits for jobs and security in this constituency and the nation in general.

Only time will tell if he is the person to lead the Labour Party back to power, but one thing is for certain – under his leadership the issue that potentially has the most catastrophic consequence for this

constituency, global warming, won't be forgotten by him when the present Government proceeds with its savage cuts to our sea defences and frontline emergency services.

Ed Miliband is a great leader of my party in the making. At the Copenhagen Summit last year he showed the world he understood the threat global warming and climate change posed to the world. Since then, the earthquake in Haiti and the floods in Pakistan have left their indelible mark.

By the time of the next general election in either 2011 or 2015, Ed Miliband will have left his own indelible mark on British politics, and by then the voters of this constituency will undoubtedly know they have a true champion on their side as their next prime minister.

*Donald Worsley, Folkestone*

### Good to meet keen students

Medway Green Party was pleased to attend the Freshers' Fair at MidKent College in Gillingham and had the



### Miliband faces a change of mindset

KENT'S former Labour MPs have united in their praise for new party leader Ed Miliband, believing him to be the man who can bring that much-talked about support back to the county.

This is a bold statement coming from a party which was eradicated from Kent's political map in the general election, and almost completely wiped out at the county council elections.

But you can't blame them for having hope – there is little else to cling on to for Labour in a completely Tory-run county.

Perhaps this is the change they are looking for which could bring a new confidence to Labour activists which could then rub off on voters.

The question on party members' lips is, will residents have more faith in Mr Miliband than his predecessor?

Once the whole soap opera surrounding Mr Miliband and his brother David blows over, he will be expected to fulfil all the promises he made during his campaign which included policies to help people in the South East and Kent.

Sadly for him he's trying to please a crowd where many have already made their minds up about Labour. If Ed Miliband can't get support from voters in Kent it will be a bad sign of things to come for the party in the next general election.

### Spoof paper offers lighthearted relief

WITH doom and gloom never far from the headlines, it's a joy to discover some light-hearted relief in the form of the Paddlesworth Press website.

The online spoof newspaper provides not only bizarre news, but has even gone so far as to create a wacky alter-ego for the Kent village it is based on, with characters who run Twitter accounts.

But take a look soon because if Paddlesworth Press is accurate the world is due to end in exactly 10 weeks!

chance to meet both students and tutors. I would like to thank the college for allowing us to talk about the Medway political scene to people who may not know what we as a party stand for.

More importantly, I want to thank the college and tutors for providing such an inspirational environment and encouraging the young men and women of the towns. We met some lovely people, mixed abilities, different career paths, varied needs, but all keen and pleased to be there.

I studied a couple of times at the Horsted campus in the 80s and while the surroundings may not have been as majestic as they are now, the spirit of learning was strong and that has clearly continued.

I hope that the forthcoming budget cuts don't inhibit the college in its aims and that it continues to flourish over the coming years.

*Trish Marchant, Medway Green Party, Gillingham*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28





# BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400  
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

## BIRTHS

### ALLEN-GAUSDEN

Chloe and Oliver Allen-Gausden would like to celebrate the birth of their baby boy Phineas Allen-Gausden on 13th September 2010.

### BUSH

Dulcie May born on 4th September 2010, weighing 8lbs 13oz. Daughter to Emma and John in Deal.

### CLARK

Darren and Vicky of Chartham are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful son, Alfie John, on 29 August 2010. (British F1 Champ 2030 has arrived!)

### CROCKER

Leigh and Danielle are pleased to announce the birth of their son Henry on 13th September 2010.

### CUNNINGHAM

Julian and Steven Cunningham of Broadstairs celebrate the birth of their daughter Sophie Elsie Cunningham on 15th September 2010.

### DENNY

John and Tracy Denny of Kings Hill celebrate the birth of their son Harry George Denny on the 13th September 2010.

### JUKES

Ellie Chandler and Luke Jukes are pleased to announce the long awaited arrival of Oliver Charles Jukes on 5th September 2010.

### NORRIS

Philip and Emma of Faversham are delighted to announce the birth of their gorgeous little girl, Sophie Louise, on 17 September 2010. A new sister for Callum.

### PARTRIDGE

Amber Joan born on 8th September 2010 weighing 10lbs 4oz. Daughter to Neil and Tracy and little sister to Phoebe. Mummy and Daddy's special little angel.

### PAYNE

Daniel and Suzanne celebrate the birth of their son, Finley David Payne on the 20th September 2010.

### STOREY

Kelly and Darren of Whitstable are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Jamie Ray William, on 22 September 2010. A new baby brother for Lauren.

### TANNER-FOX

Harvey Jake born on 14th September 2010, weighing 5lbs 2oz. Son to Kirsty and Sean in Eythorne.

### UTTRIDGE

Jenna and Michael of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of

their son Lucas Ian Uttridge, born on 20th September 2010 at QEQM weighing 8lb 4oz. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

### WOODWARD

Sheree and Rob of Birchington are delighted to announce the birth of their son Charlie Terry Woodward, born on 4th September 2010 at QEQM weighing 7lb 14oz. You are the miracle who we will love and treasure forever.

## DEATHS

### ANDERSON

Hilda Anderson of Folkestone passed away peacefully on 24th September 2010. Funeral enquiries to Chittendens 01303 851456.

### BRUNT

Richard (Ryk) of Dymchurch sadly passed away on 21st September 2010 after a long battle against cancer, at the age of just 57. He will be missed by many and never forgotten.

### BUTTERWORTH

Mary Butterworth of Harbledown Lodge, Canterbury, sadly passed away on the 22nd September. Greatly missed by family, friends and the staff of Harbledown Lodge, whose support over the years has been highly appreciated.

### HUMPHRY

Walter Edward Humphrys of Ramsgate passed away on 18th September 2010. Enquiries to R H Palmer, Funeral Directors, Ramsgate 01843 592720. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

### JOHNSON-COOPER

Neville Henry Johnson-Cooper of Ash passed away peacefully on 21st September 2010. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

### NORRIS

Ann Frances Norris sadly passed away at home on 19th September 2010. Beloved wife of David, much loved mum of Tracey, Leigh, Andy and Mark. Nan to Aimee, Beth and Ashley. Will be sadly missed.

### PUDWELL

Grace Pudwell died peacefully on 25th September 2010. Funeral service at Nonington Church at 12:30 on 7th October 2010.

### WOODRIDGE

Dorothy L (nee Langridge), wife of the late Ronald John and mother to Brenda and Michael, passed away peacefully on 27th September 2010. Service in Remembrance of her life to be held at St Laurence Church, Ramsgate. Details from 01525 403107.

20 per cent of greenhouse gases in developed countries, so you are right to point out the thousands of lorries passing through the county every day. Shopkeepers cry out for the public to shop locally, but they buy from all over the world, creating the need for massive numbers of heavy lorries coming into the country through Dover and elsewhere 24 hours per day, seven days a week. They should practice what they preach and buy locally themselves.

The entire food industry is, however, the biggest producer of carbon emissions and they need to be curbed drastically. Take just one example that has gone on as long as anyone can remember. Farm produce grown for example in Thanet or the Weald goes up to the London markets only to be driven back the next day to the shops close to where it came from. Supermarkets do likewise. Vegetables and fruit are collected by lorries, driven to a central warehouse a long way away and arrive back soon after near where it was grown. That's when the supermarkets are not busy buying from the four corners of the world.

Perhaps every domestic and industrial property should be made by law to have heating boilers serviced annually and be made to produce a yearly certificate when paying council taxes or face a big increase.

Motorists should also be made to have their vehicles serviced professionally every year and likewise be made by law to show a certificate to prove it has been done when applying for the yearly road tax, or be refused if they haven't got one, just as we are now if we cannot provide current insurance or MOT papers.

There is so much we could do to keep the air cleaner, but unfortunately those who govern us haven't got the brains to even start to think of such things.

*Roger Arnold, Herne Bay*

## Councils' failings

Does every reader now realise that we have a failed Kent County Council and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, despite the banner of self-congratulation over the closed door of the town hall?

Speculative entrepreneurial dealings in property are not the mandate of KCC or the borough council. To reiterate, we have had the lessons of Icelandic banks, a costly KCC TV station, lost investment in Manston Airport and a fiasco concerning the Pantiles and Tunbridge Wells Common.

We are now told £20 million was borrowed by the borough council to make a bid for the cinema site when they were skint and putting up council tax and business rates.

Who will control Mr Bullock, the agent of our MP Mr Clarke and who is the leader of a one-party local council? Will you now listen to what we have to say?

*Victor Webb, chairman UKIP Tunbridge Wells constituency*

## Stop the violence

Every week up to two women are killed by a current or former partner and 10 more commit suicide to escape domestic abuse. Despite these shocking statistics, one in three local authorities still do not provide specialist domestic violence services.

The situation may get worse after the comprehensive spending review this month. Avon, the company for women, and national domestic violence charity Refuge, are launching a countrywide social media initiative to help give every woman and child, no matter where they live, access to domestic violence services. We would like to invite you and your readers to help us lobby government to ensure that abused women and their children have access to specialist domestic violence services.

By adding your signature to our online petition, and asking others to do

so too, you will help us ensure the safety and protection of women and children terrorised by abuse in their homes.

The petition, which will close at the end of November, forms part of Avon and Refuge's joint Four Ways to Speak Out Against Domestic Violence Campaign ([www.fourwaystospeakout.com](http://www.fourwaystospeakout.com)).

Avon Global Ambassador, Reese Witherspoon, has already pledged her support for the campaign and encouraged over 5,000 people to sign the petition.

Celebrity tweeters and high-profile bloggers are also adding their names and encouraging others to speak out against domestic violence.

Please lend your support to this campaign – a couple of minutes of your time will benefit the lives of thousands.

*Anna Segatti, group vice-president, Avon Western Europe and Middle East;*

*Sandra Horley, OBE, chief executive, Refuge*

## Ban horse whips

Despite increasing public concern for the welfare of animals, one aspect of animal cruelty rarely gets exposure: the use of the whip on race horses.

Animal Aid recently completed a survey of whip offences committed by jockeys in racing during the first six months of 2010. Taken from the British Horseracing Authority's database, the whip rules – which are meant to protect horses from abuse – were contravened during this period 453 times by 243 jockeys. The penalties imposed were not severe enough to stop 101 jockeys from re-offending, and two broke the rules nine times. There has been an 83 per cent rise in offences since 2006.

Many horses were hit when they had no chance of winning. Others were hit so hard that they were left with weal marks. Shockingly, a number of horses were beaten on more than one occasion. An elderly horse called Mr Parson, who has never had the ability to ever win a race, was brutalised and wealed by his jockey as he plodded up to the Towcester racecourse finishing post in an exhausted state. He was beaten with the whip a month later at the same racecourse by a different jockey when out of contention.

Clearly current regulation does not work as a disincentive to offend. Animal Aid believes it is time to remove the whip from British racing.

*Dene Stansall, Animal Aid, Tonbridge*

## Parents too young

I am going to scream if I hear any more accusations that more children are special needs and the blame put upon teachers.

The main culprits are the parents. A lot are too young to have a child, or to know how to start the teaching process at home in the first five years.

No preparation is given to children in many families. They don't read books to their children, or talk to them. Cooking with them seems to be a thing of the past, taking them to the park unheard of, as is teaching them numbers and letters and writing their own name and address before starting school.

Some parents only supply takeaway meals and fizzy drinks – no fresh foods. Screaming and swearing, allowing them to play in the street, watching the wrong TV shows, no love and protection given – and expecting them to live in a house full of smoke and alcohol.

Teachers have a tough job. They are expected to be social workers, and are not allowed to discipline the children.

Many children start school with behavioural problems. Yes, many of the children have needs, but not special needs.

Children need good parents who will love them, feed them, teach them and care for them. Many do not get this because the mothers are not mature enough to look after themselves, let alone bring up a child.

*C Russell, Ramsgate*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

## Survey unfair

On Wednesday, September 29, Shepway District Council voted on the Governance Arrangements for the council but the whole way in which it has gone about this exercise has shown contempt for the voters and an unbelievable bias by those in, and who want to retain, power in Shepway.

The report accompanying the motion up for vote at that meeting demonstrates this contempt and bias, stating: "Only four people responded to the consultation – two favouring an elected mayor, two the indirectly elected leader model. The committee considered that there was no compelling case to radically alter the council's executive arrangements from those it has at present."

"It considered that retaining the leader and cabinet model was more likely to assist in securing continuous improvement in the way in which the council's functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness."

"Its recommendations to the council therefore are that the new 'strong leader' model be adopted."

The reason that only four people responded was that the consultation process was underhanded, discriminatory and biased.

It was not publicised in anyway, just placed on the council website.

By only being available on the Shepway website, it excluded those who could not use the internet or who were unable to access it. And the bias to retain the status quo was more than evident in the language used in the consultation document.

I am, admittedly, in favour of a directly-elected mayor and I feel that this demonstrates why such a change is needed. Under the current system the leader of the council is

only responsible to those councillors in his party – it is only they who can put their candidate in power and, despite the rather token idea of the council being able to remove the leader this can only happen if the leader's party publically votes against them – something unlikely to happen.

Can we really trust those in power to make this decision? After all, so far, they have only acted in their own interests rather than in those of the people of Shepway – the council should delay this vote on the governance of the district until a full and fair consultation process has taken place.

*Tony Butcher, Folkestone*

## Clean up your act

It is not surprising Kent tops the carbon emissions league table of worst offenders. However, it is those who are telling us what to do who are some of the biggest culprits.

A survey of employees in every department of local councils, county councils and national government would show how far many of them drive to work every day to get the above-average salaries and the bloated taxpayer-funded pensions. Even contractors employed by councils travel too far to their job. I recently asked window cleaners working on libraries in the Isle of Thanet where they had travelled from. The answer was London.

The previous chief constable of Kent was reportedly being chauffeur-driven from his home in London to Maidstone and back every day. Do these people think they are something special?

Now there is one cut the new chief constable can make to his budget. Get rid of his chauffeur and drive himself around.

Reports say road transport produces





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## Nourished by high rating on breastfeeding

STUDENT midwives based at Kent hospitals are receiving a good education in breastfeeding, according to the children's charity Unicef.

The University of Greenwich has been rated as 'highly commended' for its teaching, which ensures graduates have the skills and knowledge to support new mothers.

Student midwives train at several hospitals linked with the university, including Queen Mary's at Sidcup, the Princess Royal in Bromley, and Darent Valley in Dartford.

Through its government-backed Baby Friendly Initiative, Unicef sets an international standard for breastfeeding training which providers must attain.

Karen Cleaver is Greenwich's head of the department of family care and mental health, which forms part of the school of health and social care.

She said: "We are delighted at this achievement. It is a reflection of the commitment of midwifery staff here at the University of Greenwich, and in local maternity services, in promoting breastfeeding."

### Tribute

"Unicef's accreditation is also a tribute to the hard work which went into preparing the submission."

Training in breastfeeding is delivered every year to about 175 student midwives via a combination of classroom-based teaching, student research and clinical-based practice and supervision sessions.

During their degrees, the students spend at least half of their time on placement, where they are assessed by qualified practitioners.

The Baby Friendly Initiative works with the healthcare system to ensure a high standard of care for pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers and babies.

Support is provided for healthcare facilities seeking to implement best practice, while the accreditation process recognises those who have achieved the required standard.

**THE University of Kent has been shortlisted for two categories in the Times Higher Education Awards.**

Professor Darren Griffin and his team are up for Research Project of the Year for their 'genetic MOT' paper, while Prof Paul Allain is hoping to pick up the award for Excellence and Innovation in the Arts.

Vice-chancellor Dame Julia Goodfellow said: "We are all very pleased to have the work of two of our academics recognised in this way and we wish them all the best."

The winners will be announced in November.

## Steel firm reinforcing the culture of success

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

STEEL workers who took part in a new MidKent College training scheme have helped to deliver savings of more than £2 million for their employer.

About 50 workers from the Sheerness-based Thamesteel firm enrolled on the course to help improve their knowledge of sustainable processes and procedures, thus reducing financial waste across 20 projects in a year.

Those who took part also achieved an NVQ qualification in business improvement techniques. Senior production manager Garry Flannery said: "The tangible benefits of the programme are outstanding, especially in these challenging economic times, but equally important are the intangible benefits such as cross-functional teamwork and the sharing of knowledge across departments. This developing culture will ensure success today and allow for continued improvement."

Training manager Gez Tingley said: "While we recognise the achievement of a personal qualification for staff, this programme has enabled Thamesteel to see the training undertaken by its staff put into practice and has brought a real benefit."

"We are keen to maintain the momentum and hope to continue our relationship with MidKent College."

Fully funded and delivered by MidKent College, the training programme consisted of a series of trainer-led workshops, group tasks, on-the-job coaching and work-based projects. Improvements to Thamesteel's



IN THE LOOP: Thamesteel workers on site with their training manager Gez Tingley (left)

working practices as a result included reducing the amount of dust and pollution, increasing the efficiency of steel production and preventing the leakage of lime. As well as saving the firm money, these improvements also had a positive impact on health and safety standards and the environment.

Senior plant production manager Sanjeev Manocha said: "We believe in investing in our staff. The management training programme taken through MidKent College and our work with the Six Sigma business strategy has yielded tremendous results in terms of team building, environmental improvements, safety awareness and better housekeeping."

Jacqui Brown, the manager of MidKent College's business development unit, said: "We are delighted to see our training have such a huge impact and are looking forward to maintaining our relationship with Thamesteel and other local businesses long into the future."

Thamesteel is one of the fastest-growing steel manufacturers in the UK, with annual revenue of more than £100 million.

The company is owned by the Al-Tuwairqi Group of Saudi Arabia, which is one of the largest businesses in the Middle East and has invested more than £100m in Thamesteel since purchasing it in 2003.

## Carving a niche

A STONEMASON helping to repair Canterbury Cathedral has won an award at the World Skills competition.

Sam Matthews, who is halfway through his apprenticeship at the historic site, picked up a silver prize at the event in Coleg Menai, Wales.

Apprentice manager Steve Manuel said: "It's vital we have a supply of trained stonemasons for the future to keep the cathedral and other buildings in good shape. Awards such as this show the high quality of craftsmanship found at the cathedral."



## A grand design

PUPILS from Leigh Technology Academy in Dartford designed and raced a sustainable vehicle at London's first Eco-Car Spectacular.

The car lined up on the grid alongside designs by the likes of Honda, Toyota and Renault.

The students also learned about modern engineering and technology through workshops with manufacturers. Academy youngsters are pictured (left) with designer Kevin McCloud, who presents the Grand Designs TV show for Channel 4.

**Pull out your Review section opposite to read JobsforKent.co.uk, starting on page 67**





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**INVESTORS IN PEOPLE** **THIRTEEN Leisure Force**  
 Winter Gardens, Margate  
**Casual Bar and Silver Service**  
**Waiting Staff Required**  
 Please call the Winter Gardens on 0845 38 999 38 to register your details.  
 Hartstons, Margate.  
**Casual Catering Assistants**  
**Required**  
 Please call 01843 868302 to request an application form.  
 All posts are payable at £5.83 per hour and include evening and weekend work.  
 Closing Date: Friday 8th October 2010.

**Littlebourne House Residential Care Home**  
 requires an  
**ADMINISTRATOR**  
 8am-5pm Mon-Fri  
 Must be computer literate and experience in the  
 Care Industry preferable  
 Also looking for **DOMESTIC STAFF**  
 Please contact Maralyn or Amanda on 01227 721527

**CHEF'S**  
 Required Commis to  
 Chef de Partie level at  
 The Beacon  
 1.5 miles from  
 Tunbridge Wells.  
 Call Scott on  
 01892 524252

**BETHANY HOUSE**  
**CARE HOME**  
 Dymchurch  
 requires a  
**DEPUTY MATRON/**  
**MANAGER**  
 To join our team in caring for adults with a  
 physical disability. Applicants will be a first level  
 registered nurse and will be required to undergo  
 a CRB check  
 For more information and an application form  
 please tel: 01303 872289

Due to expansion  
**Care Staff**  
 required for days  
 and nights in busy  
 residential home  
 Good rates of pay and  
 bonus.  
 NVQ Training available.  
 Please ring  
 Karen or Julie  
 01732 822215 from Monday

**COOK/MANAGER**  
 For  
**Cranbrook Primary School (Cranbrook)**  
 Main Duties:  
 To manage the catering operation in a Primary School. This  
 is a new contract approximately 90 meals per day. This  
 position also involves Cash Collection and reconciliation  
 following company procedures and KCC Head Teacher  
 Voucher System (Full training provided)  
 This position involves food production, all due diligence &  
 company procedures, staff management, client  
 communication, marketing, and much more (Job  
 Description available on request): Monday to Friday Term  
 time only, 8.30am to 2.00pm, 27.5 hours per week  
 Contact catering@pc-fare.co.uk quoting Cranbrook job vacancy  
 Closing date Friday 22nd October 2010

**Crew needed for the Nevill Crest and Gun, Eridge**  
 The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has now  
 come under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovation  
 scheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December.  
 You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and  
 have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional  
 in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food.  
 Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting for  
 gardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff:  
 • **Deputy manager** - package up to £25,000  
 • **Assistant manager** - Up to £20,000  
 • **Sous Chef** - package up to £25,000  
 • **Chefs de Partie** - £15,000 - £17,500  
 To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applying  
 please email [jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk](mailto:jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk) enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,  
 telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick.  
[www.brunningandprice.co.uk](http://www.brunningandprice.co.uk)

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 or fax: 020 8847 2344

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**Experienced Qualified**  
**Support Workers**  
**Lyminge, Nr Folkestone**  
 Residential care home supporting 16 adults with mild  
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 The successful candidate would need to have good communication  
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 If you feel you have the experience to meet our needs, please apply to  
 Ray Kemp, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road,  
 Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PP or e-mail [ray.kemp@piperwindows.co.uk](mailto:ray.kemp@piperwindows.co.uk).  
 Closing date for applications is  
 Friday 15 October 2010, no agencies.  
 We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

**The future of local media**  
 Would you like to be a part of an exciting and growing team  
 developing our portfolio across Kent's towns and districts?  
**Leisure and features writer**  
 KOS Media is looking for a leisure and features writer to work across all its  
 titles, including Kent on Saturday, Kent on Sunday, Tunbridge Wells on  
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 newspapers.  
 You must be able to write in a clear and attractive fashion, cope with a  
 demanding workload and have a genuine and wide-ranging interest in  
 leisure, style and entertainment.  
 You would be based at our offices in Smeeth.  
**Apply with your CV and a covering letter to:**  
 Ian Patel, Editorial Director,  
 Apple Barn,  
 Smeeth,  
 Kent TN25 6SS  
 Email: [ian.patel@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:ian.patel@kosmedia.co.uk)  
  
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## The future of local media

Would you like to be a part of an exciting and growing team developing our portfolio across Kent's towns and districts?

### Are you Sport mad?

#### Commercial Sales Manager (Sports Product)

Playing the key role in selling advertising and sponsorship across our new sports products is something that an all round sports enthusiast would revel in.

Candidates will possess a proven track record in media sales, combining excellent communication and presentation skills, a great business acumen, tenacity, and the ability to build positive business relationships.

Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured sales technique, a positive manner and passion for all things sport.

### Have you got innovative ideas?

#### Media Sales Executives

We have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines.

We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers.

We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers.

#### About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces kentnews.co.uk and yourkentTV, an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

In June, 2010, media group Archant purchased KOS Media.

#### Archant is the UK's largest independently owned regional media business

It is a community media company active in the fields of regional newspaper and magazine publishing, contract printing and internet communications. All its titles serve clearly defined communities, based around locations or interest groups.

Archant can trace its roots back more than 160 years and today remains one of the country's largest independent media businesses. As a private company it employs 1,850 people right across England. It has an annual turnover of £142 million.

The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

Archant also owns three magazine companies, which between them produce around 80 magazines.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

#### To apply send your CV with covering letter to:

Jason Pyne, Development Director  
KOS Media, Apple Barn,  
Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford,  
Kent TN25 6SS.

Or by email:  
jason.pyne@kosmedia.co.uk



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## Abbey Court School "WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a

### TEACHER FOR PUPILS WITH SEVERE AND PROFOUND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES TO COMMENCE ASAP OR JANUARY 2011

MPS + 2 SEN Points +

TLR 2C £2535 (with previous experience)

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided.

Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 15th October 2010

Interviews to be held on 19th October 2010.

For further details and a job description, please contact  
Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP  
(01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.

## Abbey Court School "WE GROW PEOPLE"

.....a 'special' school and a 'special' place to work

We are currently looking for a...

### SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST

to join and enhance our high calibre team

Medway Scale, Grade B2

£27,052 - £34,549 pro rata (37 hours per week – term time only)

Abbey Court School is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 4-19 with severe learning difficulties. We are looking for an enthusiastic and effective Speech and Language Therapist, with a professional, flexible approach and a good sense of humour. In essence, somebody with an interest in an educational setting and who would like to work in a school committed to enabling pupils to reach their full potential.

Working hours are 37 hours p/w, term time only. Candidates should hold a relevant Speech and Language Therapy degree/qualification. Benefits include: Local Authority pension scheme, induction training, performance management programme and Continuous Professional Development. Visits to the school are welcomed.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount, and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

For an application pack, or to make an appointment to visit, please telephone  
(stating the role for which you are applying):

Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent ME2 3SP  
(01634 338236)

Please note CV's will not be accepted. Closing date: 8.10.10

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## Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

### Assistant Project Manager

**Ref: APM01**

Salary: c£25k (dependent on qualifications and experience), Maidstone

MidKent College has identified an exciting opportunity for an Assistant Project Manager to play a lead role in the development of its Maidstone Campus, a £20m project including significant refurbishment and new build. With an engineering/construction background, and a sound knowledge of Prince2 and MS Project, the ideal candidate will be a graduate with 2-3 years experience looking to broaden his/her career portfolio.

Responsible to the College Assistant Project Director, as the key point of contact between the consultant project management design team and the College, the APM will be responsible for the preparation, collation and storage of all project data and for liaison with the PM team; curriculum staff and LA planners etc.

This is a full time position that demands enthusiasm, commitment and a desire to deliver an important project safely, and to time quality and cost. The initial contract is for 12 months, extendable to 2 years, for the right candidate.

**CLOSING DATE: Friday 1 October 2010**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website [www.rbli.co.uk](http://www.rbli.co.uk) for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



To advertise in this section **01303 817040**



## Shift to another gear



### Lecturer in Motor Vehicle Studies

£23,760 - £32,666 pa  
Tunbridge Wells

With increasing student numbers, our IMV and Motorsport programmes are already hugely successful. Now we are aiming to take that success still further, which is why we need an enthusiastic professional to join us in this brand new role. Teaching learners aged 14 and upwards of levels 1, 2 and 3, you will engage and inspire every student to achieve their goals.

A significant trade background is essential, combined with a good knowledge of IMV programmes of levels 1 and 2. You should also have experience of training apprentices and ideally a teaching/assessing qualification.

This College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our users and expects all staff to share this commitment, in order for all to achieve their full potential. The successful applicant will be required to undertake a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check and to provide proof of their right to work in the UK.

To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit [www.wkc.ac.uk](http://www.wkc.ac.uk). Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email [hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk](mailto:hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk). Please quote ref: T7061

Closing date: 12 noon on Thursday 14th October 2010



## Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individuals in the following areas:

### Lecturer in Electrical Installation Ref: P0357

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to deliver Electrical Installation to learners studying from level 1 to level 3. The successful candidate will contribute to the development, delivery and teaching of Electrical Installation programmes. The ideal candidate must have a current knowledge and practical experience of the Building Services Industry, have sufficient teaching experience and educated to Level 3 or the equivalent in the relevant field. The successful candidate must have; an Advanced Craft Certificate, including Inspection and testing of Installations and possess either a D32/34 or A & V Awards and hold a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one. Good IT skills and the ability to work within a team are essential.

### Lecturer in Child Care Ref: P0070

18.5 hours per week. Fixed term Maternity cover

### Lecturer in Child Care and Health and Social Care Ref: P0232

Salary: £24,096 - £28,963 per annum/pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience) Medway

We are looking for knowledgeable and experienced candidates to deliver CACHE Child Care programmes at various levels. The successful candidates will have the ability to motivate students and be flexible and adaptable in their teaching methods. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

**CLOSING DATE: Friday 15 October 2010**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website [www.rbli.co.uk](http://www.rbli.co.uk) for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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## Bradstow School

Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

### TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS - CHILDCARE

£13,874 plus 10% per annum - 41 hours per week, (including weekends) - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\* & £4,994 - 15 hours per week, (weekends only) - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students from classrooms to childcare rooms afternoons and evenings during the week and late or early shifts each weekend.

### CHILDCARE SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

£10,079 plus 10% per annum - 36.5 hours per week, (including weekends) - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

### LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS (TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS - EDUCATION)

£12,499 per annum - 37.5 hours per week, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (from childcare teams into classrooms) Mon-Fri - Term time only, plus 2 weeks\*

The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting teachers in the school.

\*For these roles there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage application by email, so for an application form and information pack please email [personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk). Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CVs will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 12 noon Friday 15th October 2010.



[www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk](http://www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk)

## Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

### Lecturer in Hair Ref: M0496

26 hours per week. Salary: £25,181 - £28,963 pro rata. Fixed Term Maternity Cover. Medway.

We have an exciting opportunity to recruit a passionate individual to teach, assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Closing date: Friday 8 October 2010

**CLOSING DATE: Friday 8 October 2010**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website [www.rbli.co.uk](http://www.rbli.co.uk) for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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or email  
enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

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## The John Townsend Trust

Royal School for Deaf Children Margate  
Westgate College for Deaf People  
Community Living Services  
Monkshill Farm

### Registered Nurse

Due to expansion and development we now need to recruit a registered nurse to join our friendly team based in Margate.

The role is full time during school term time on Nursing pay band 5 and may suit a newly qualified nurse or a nurse returning to work.

If you're enthusiastic, motivated and serious about working with our special children and young people then we want to hear from you.

We are committed to equal opportunities and diversity and welcome applicants from all groups and communities.

All positions are subject to an Enhanced CRB Disclosure check, satisfactory references, proof of qualifications and a fully checkable work history.

Closing date: **9th October 2010**

For application packs please contact Human Resources Department

Telephone 01843 222429

email: hr@royalschoolfordeaf.kent.sch.uk

Or download an application form from our website: www.townsendtrust.org



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**Salary**Negotiable  
**Salary**Negotiable  
Purchase Ledger Clerk/Head Office, Ashford.  
A vacancy for the position of Purchase Ledger Clerk has arisen in the GSE Group. The successful candidate will ideally have worked in a similar role, and in a busy high volume, data processing environment. You will work under your own initiative and be able to prioritise your workload to meet specified timeframes. Essentially you must be competent in the use of Microsoft Outlook, Excel & Word applications.

If you are interested in apply for this position, please submit your application in writing together with a CV to Sue Whittaker, HR Manager - Joshua House, Crowbridge Road, Orbital Park, Ashford, Kent TN24 0GR. Alternatively email your application to sue.whittaker@gse-group.com.

**To apply/more information:**  
GSE Group  
linde.taylor.gse-group.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

## Administration, Secretarial, PA

### HEAD RECEPTIONIST

#### Canterbury

**Salary**Negotiable  
Exciting Opportunity to join Broome Park Country Club's dynamic Reception Team Diamond Resorts International&reg; is seeking a Head Receptionist -Temporary for six months40 hours per week

We are seeking a customer focused and flexible individual to manage the smooth running of our reception area and small team. Key responsibilities include; customer care, cash handling, telephony, communication with other departments and general administration. Customer service skills, computer literacy, a pleasant manner and hands on approach are essential for this role.

This is a full time position working five days per week on a rota basis to include evenings and some weekends. Previous experience in a similar role or supervisory position is preferred.

For more details or to apply please email  
Clare.croose@diamondresorts.co.uk or contact Clare Croose on 01227 831 701

We are an equal opportunity employer  
**To apply/more information:**  
Diamond Resorts  
clare.croose@diamondresorts.co.uk

### Parish Clerk

#### Wye

**Salary**NJC Payrates  
WYE with HINXHILL PARISH COUNCILPARISH CLERKPart-time (18 hrs per week)Flexible, home-based - NJC pay rates  
This post provides a major opportunity for a forward-looking and committed person to serve the Parish Council at a critical time in Wye's history and to contribute to the successful development of the Council and village alike. The Clerk's work is varied and involves acting on the Council's behalf as its executive and point of contact for the public and all external organisations, as well as servicing its monthly evening meetings and other occasional events. Starting in January 2011 the successful candidate will overlap with the present Clerk, who will take up the post of Responsible Financial Officer in April 2011. The new Clerk will be given support to work for the CILCA qualification. Please visit the Council's website

www.wyeparish.info for a job description, person specification and application details. Closing date for the receipt of applications is 15th October 2010. Interviews will take place on the evening of 2nd November 2010  
**To apply/more information:**  
WYE with HINXHILL PARISH COUNCIL  
wye.parishclerk@btinternet.com  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

## Catering, Hospitality

### Fresh Fish Manager

#### Maidstone

**Salary**Negotiable  
Due to a restructure within the business, a fresh fish manager is now required at M&amper; J Seafoods, Maidstone. Duties will include all areas of picking and preparation of wet fish, following company procedures, policies and current Health and Safety legislation Experience is essential within the industry together with management skills in leading a small team.  
For more information please contact Wayne on 01622 815100

**To apply/more information:**  
M & J Seafood  
wtee@mjseafoods.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Experienced Cook

#### Folkestone

**Salary**Negotiable  
Experienced CookRequired forbusy children's play centreFull time - 42 hours per weekFor more information Please call Claire Tyler on 07870 249747

**To apply/more information:**  
Kidzplanet  
claire@toyastik.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Chef

#### Tunbridge Wells

**Salary**Negotiable  
CHEF'S Required Commis toChef de Partie level atThe Beacon1.5miles fromTunbridge Wells.Call Scott on01892 524252

**To apply/more information:**  
Beacon (The)  
beaconhotel@btopenworld.com  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Deputy manager

#### Nr Tunbridge Wells

**Salary**~£25,000  
Crew needed for the Nevill Crest and Gun, Eridge  
The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has now come under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovationscheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December. You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food. Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting for gardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff.Âc Deputy manager - package up to ~£25,000To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applyingplease email jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick. www.brunningandprice.co.uk

**To apply/more information:**  
Brunning & Price  
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Chefs de Partie

#### Nr Tunbridge Wells

**Salary**~£15,000 - ~£17,500  
The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has now come under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovationscheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December. You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food. Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting for gardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff.Âc Chefs de Partie - ~£15,000 - ~£17,500To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applyingplease email jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick. www.brunningandprice.co.uk

**To apply/more information:**  
Brunning & Price  
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Assistant manager

### Nr Tunbridge Wells

**Salary**Up to ~£20,000  
The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has now come under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovationscheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December. You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food. Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting for gardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff.Âc Assistant manager - Up to ~£20,000To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applyingplease email jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick. www.brunningandprice.co.uk

**To apply/more information:**  
Brunning & Price  
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Sous Chef

#### Nr Tunbridge Wells

**Salary**Up to ~£25,000  
The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has now come under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovationscheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December. You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food. Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting for gardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff.Âc Sous Chef - package up to ~£25,000To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applyingplease email jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick. www.brunningandprice.co.uk

**To apply/more information:**  
Brunning & Price  
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Chefs de Partie

#### Nr Tunbridge Wells

**Salary**~£15,000 - ~£17,500  
The Nevill Crest and Gun near Tunbridge Wells is a beautiful old building that has now come under the wing of Brunning and Price, and we're embarking on an extensive renovationscheme to bring it back on song. With good luck we hope to re-open in December. You may already know the Hare in Langton Green that we have operated for 22 years, and have more recently opened the White Hart in Sevenoaks. Our pub restaurants are traditional in style, with decent old furniture and open fires, and we serve simple, high quality fresh food. Below are some of the positions we're looking for right now, but we'll also be recruiting for gardeners, cleaners, kitchen porters and front of house staff.Âc Chefs de Partie - ~£15,000 - ~£17,500To find out more have a browse through the website below. If you're interested in applyingplease email jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk

enclosing a CV with a recent photo and covering letter,telling us a bit about yourself and what makes you tick. www.brunningandprice.co.uk

**To apply/more information:**  
Brunning & Price  
jan.bullen@bandp.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

## Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

### Service Advisor

#### Folkestone

**Salary**Negotiable  
Due to the complete refurbishment of our Folkestonebranch we need to fill the following vacancies.  
Service AdvisorAn experienced Service Advisor is needed for our busyfront counter. Experience in one of our franchises would be beneficial but not essential. The successful applicant must be able to work under pressure and have good people skills. The role includes serving customers on a day to day basis and advising on work required so some mechanicalknowledge would be an advantage.

The successful applicants for the above positions will be working for a well established dealership, benefits include a generous remuneration package and a fantastic opportunity to further their career within themotor industry. To apply please contact Lynda Brazier on 01303249656or email lynda.brazier@kapmotorgroup.co.uk  
Shorncliffe Motor Park, Ross Way, Folkestone CT20 3UJ  
**To apply/more information:**  
KAP (Kent Auto Panels) Ltd  
lynda.brazier@kapmotorgroup.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Bus and Coach fitters

#### Sheerness

**Salary**Negotiable  
Engineering Manager to take fullresponsibility for the day to day runningof the engineering function which operates24 hours each day. The successful applicant will have extensiveworkshop experience and an appropriateAutomotive engineering qualification.Experience in the bus and coach industry is an advantage. You must be fully conversant with the appropriate VOSAand Health and Safety regulations and best practice. Also required, Bus and Coach fitters. To apply for both positions, please send CV to either Mr Tim Lambkin, Travelmasters, Dorset Road, Industrial Estate, Sheerness, Kent. ME12 1LT Or by email to: Tim@travel-masters.co.uk  
**To apply/more information:**  
Travelmasters  
Tim@travel-masters.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: KOS

### Demand Planner

#### West Kent

**Salary**~£28,000  
A rare opportunity to work in a medium sized but fast moving subsidiary of a multi-national organisation. With a minimum of 3 years experience gained working as a demand/forecast planner within the FMCG environment you will have advanced excel and excellent communication skills. Knowledge of S&amper; OP processes and long range forecasting is essential with knowledge of forecasting tools, resource planning software, SAP and Manugistics an advantage. French linguistic skills are desirable but not essential.  
**To apply/more information:**  
Interpersonnel  
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: 1700

## Production Resources Manager

#### London

**Salary**Negotiable  
Production Resources Manager  
The Company is about to embark on a new phase of business expansion and has a vacancy for a Production Resources Manager.  
The successful candidate will have overall accountability for the co-ordination and management of the Company's production planning and scheduling activities to achieve on time delivery performance to customers such as Rolls Royce, Airbus and Westland Helicopters.  
The Company operates a comprehensive bespoke manufacturing data base system and has an established production control team to plan demand and manufacturing resource.

Candidates must have a background in manufacturing and a proven track record in production control management, must be a good communicator, resourceful and motivated to develop systems and strategies. It is important the candidate has the presence to manage influence others.

The new position will be immediately responsible to the Operations Director for the control of capacity planning and scheduling of production for the business.

Applications with C.V. to Jean.galler@stonefoundries.co.uk  
**To apply/more information:**  
Stone Foundries  
jean.galler@stonefoundries.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Graduate Engineers

#### Saudi Arabia

**Salary**Negotiable  
PLASTIC PIPE EXTRUSION &amper; INJECTION  
MOULDINGThree graduate engineers required in Saudi Arabia. Production: Polymers, Production/Industrial engineering. 10 years production management, at least 5 in injection, extrusion, compounding. Maintenance: mechanical/electrical engineering. Industrial: Production/Manufacturing/Engineering. Eliminate waste. Send detailed cv to saudipipes@gmail.com. Do not send by attachment.  
**To apply/more information:**  
William Starkey  
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

Advertise your latest vacancies here and online

**JobsforKent.co.uk**

To advertise in this section or online

**01303 817040**

## Estate Agency, Property

### Administrative Assistant

#### Sittingbourne

**Salary**Negotiable  
Fancy a new Challenge? We are seeking an Administrative Assistant ideally with property lettings and/or debt management experience. Good IT and secretarial skills a must and be able to work on own initiative. Pleasant personality required. F/T or P/T to be discussed. Full ongoing training will be given. Send your CV by the 1st October 2010 to: Family Homes, 68

Milton High Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 2AN or email to sunil.popat@virgin.net  
**To apply/more information:**  
Family Homes  
sunil.popat@virgin.net  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

## Health & Beauty

### Qualified Hairstylist

#### Sheerness

**Salary**Negotiable  
BeezNeez requires a conscientious and ambitious fully qualified hair stylist to join our busy and friendly salon. Ideally the applicant will have experience working in a salon environment or mobile. You will be working as a self employed stylist on a Rent a Chair or 50/50 basis available. We have a full or part time positions available. Lots of perks including support with extra training. If you'd like to be part of our team working for a established salon then please contact Anita at BeezNeez 3-5 Rose Street Sheerness ME12 1AJ 01795 669101 or email your details to anita@beezneezhair.co.uk. You may be required to do a trade test.

**To apply/more information:**  
Beez Neez  
dainesa@hotmail.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Experienced Hair Stylist

#### Folkestone & Tonbridge

**Salary**Negotiable  
Design-A-Head  
Require an experienced hair stylist for their salons in Tonbridge and Folkestone. Please call Tony Charlton for an interview 01732469949/01732770795  
**To apply/more information:**  
Design A Head  
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: kos

### Lecturer in Hair

#### Medway

**Salary**~£25,181 - ~£28,963 pro rata  
Lecturer in Hair Ref: M049626 hours per week. Salary: ~£25,181 - ~£28,963 pro rata. Fixed Term Maternity Cover. Medway.

We have an exciting opportunity to recruit a passionate individual to teach, assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold, or be willing to work towards, a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous. Closing date: Friday 8 October 2010

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

**To apply/more information:**  
Mid Kent College  
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk  
SalaryJob Ref: M0496

## Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

### Parcel Sorters/Loaders

#### Larkfield

**Salary**~£6 p/h  
This job is a temporary role leading up to Christmas. Hours are either 4am - 8am or 4pm -





## Jobs by Email

Be the first to receive the latest Kent Jobs

8pm. Duties will include unloading parcels of varying size from lorries into cages and sorting by postcode, and loading ready for despatch. Applicants must be numerate & literate and have previous manual handling experience. **To apply/more information:** Best Connection Agency (The) maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

## Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

### IT Service Engineer

#### Ramsgate and Client Sites Salary-£18K-£22K

We are currently seeking a highly skilled service engineer with the drive and determination to help us support our client base. This position reports to our Service Manager. We are looking for an individual who is a problem-solver and has a proven track record of working within a team environment to successfully address challenging user computing issues and is accustomed to utilising technical training opportunities to improve their skills. If you have the experience and the desire, we'd like to talk to you.

Our service engineers are responsible for maintaining user uptime and improving their computing experiences through effective remote monitoring, maintenance and problem identification and resolution activities, as well as growing and developing the organisation's perception with existing customers through exceptional customer service. Candidates must be energetic and focused with a strong motivation to learn new technologies and management and maintenance processes. This position requires dedication, persistence, follow-up, effective utilisation of provided resources and unbeatable customer service. This position will include identifying user problems and working within a structured problem management and resolution process to remediate them within established SLAs, and involves working with other resources and vendors to deliver effective support services. Responsibilities include identifying, documenting and troubleshooting user computing issues to resolution and maintaining customer satisfaction.

Job duties include utilising our remote monitoring and management (RMM) and professional services automation (PSA) solutions along with other service-specific tools and technologies to deliver remote user support services and update service request information, answer technical support calls, assign ticket severity, prioritise work accordingly, and collaborate and work with other staff and vendor support resources to resolve issues. Overall relationship management and the ability to coordinate required resources to respond to complex IT requirements are desired. Other requirements include participating in on-going training and attainment of manufacturer certifications, developing and maintaining relationships with user and vendor contacts, and preparing and presenting service and monitoring reports to management when required. Minimum Skills Required: &mdot; Relevant service engineering experience &mdot; Microsoft Certified Professional status&mdot; Excellent knowledge of our supported software and technologies &mdot; Strong interpersonal skills required to effectively communicate with users and vendors &mdot;

Passion for teamwork, continuing education, problem solving and exceptional customer service&mdot; Must be well spoken, outgoing, organised, detailed-orientated, dependable and flexible&mdot; Detailed experience with HP, SonicWALL and Cisco solutions advantageous&mdot; Valid current driver's license This Position Entails:&mdot; Troubleshooting user problems over the phone and with remote control technologies&mdot; Accurate documentation of all activities conducted&mdot; Field based support and installation work&mdot; Participating in the weekly &lsquo;on call' rota for out-of-hours support&mdot; The ability to manage, maintain, troubleshoot and support our users' networks, equipment, software and services&mdot; The ability to learn quickly and adapt to changing requirements The Successful Candidate must be: &mdot; Professional and articulate &mdot; Interpersonally adept &mdot; Technically proficient &mdot; A relationship builder &mdot; A problem solver In addition to the salary for this post there are non-contractual bonuses to be earned for meeting utilisation, compliance and customer service requirements. Qualified candidates please download the application form at www.bcs-online.co.uk/application.pdf - If you have any questions regarding this position, please contact Gareth Johns on 01843 572604 or email gareth.johns@bcs-online.co.uk **To apply/more information:** Business Computer Solutions gareth.johns@bcs-online.co.uk SalaryJob Ref: kos

## Leisure, Tourism, Travel

### Activities Co-ordinator

**Gillingham SalarySalary**Negotiable Presigious Care Home seeks enthusiastic, flexible and innovative person to deliver diverse and stimulating activities. Awareness of naval traditions an advantage. Hours and salary discussed at interview, please call 01634 852431 for application form. Closing date for applications 1st October 2010. **To apply/more information:** Royal Naval Benevolent Trust jotrembeth@pembrokehouse-rnbt.org.uk SalaryJob Ref: kos

## Management, Senior Positions

### COMMERCIAL MANAGER

#### Hythe

**SalarySalary**Negotiable COMMERCIAL MANAGERGSE Cheriton Parc Ltd requires a Commercial Manager now that we are embarking on the Hythe Imperial Hotel project. The role will be to provide the project management required to effectively deliver both elements of the Hythe Imperial Hotel project; phased construction of 75 housing units and the major refurbishment and remodelling program for the hotel. The role will also involve:&mdot; Managing relationships between the client, contractor and hotel management. Liaising between group H&amp;S manager and client CDM-C to ensure compliance with H&amp;S and environmental issues. Conclude budget and cost modelling exercise. Develop specification with design team and conclude the pre-construction design

phase to the release of construction information ensuring compliance with budget. Be responsive and provide prompt solutions to the inevitable changes during the design development phase. This design and planning process is crucial to the scheme to avoid any potential costly issues with the design &mdot; detailing. Tracking the construction phase against budget and reporting fluctuations.&mdot; Provide information to the funders monitoring surveyor for preparation of drawdown.&mdot; Ensure that main contractor complies with the agreed specification. Continual monitoring to ensure quality is maintained is essential.&mdot; Involvement with the main contractor subcontract procurement process to maintain both H&amp;S and quality standards.

The role will develop to include build preparation and project management for the Waterbrook Park development as the master plan develops and the outline application progresses.

An excellent package is offered to the right candidate. Application in writing enclosing a CV to Sue Whittaker, HR Manager, Joshna House, Crowbridge Road, Orbital Business Park, Ashford, Kent TN24 9GR or sue.whittaker@gse-group.com . Closing date is Monday 4th October 2010

**To apply/more information:**

GSE Group

linde.taylor@gse-group.co.uk

SalaryJob Ref: kos

Vacancies filled fast online with

JobsforKent.co.uk

To advertise in this section or online

01303 817040

### Contracts Manager

#### Hythe

**SalarySalary**Negotiable Contracts Manager GSE Design & Build Limited requires a motivated and enthusiastic Contracts Manager with a proven track record showing the ability to deliver projects in Kent &mdot; Sussex on budget, to programme and to the satisfaction of the client. Your CV should demonstrate experience in a range of market sectors including commercial, retail, education and health with both traditional and design and build contract forms. An excellent package is offered to the right candidate. Application in writing enclosing a CV to Sue Whittaker, HR Manager, Joshna House, Crowbridge Road, Orbital Business Park, Ashford, Kent TN24 9GR or sue.whittaker@gse-group.com . Closing date is 11th October 2010

**To apply/more information:**

GSE Group

linde.taylor@gse-group.co.uk

SalaryJob Ref: kos

Love Speaking to People But Tired of Call Centres?

Our Client has been voted THE top telecommunications provider in the UK. Due to the success of our ongoing campaigns and the results we produce we are experiencing a heightened level of consumer demand, resulting in the expansion of our field sales department. Forget behind-the-scenes, this is a high-impact,

high visibility opportunity where every day will be a different challenge - and it will be down to you to inspire, motivate and deliver every time.

You will be motivated, confident and outgoing with good interpersonal skills. You will think like a leader with a positive attitude and be prepared to develop and grow. This opportunity covers various aspects of the marketing and field sales industry

• Engaging with clients and customers, representing the brand at all times

• Generating brand awareness and understanding

• Producing accurate and appropriate written correspondence

• Analysing campaigns effectiveness

• Driving clients brand through sales and excellent customer service

Working at J-K Marketing Services will provide you access to industry related events and seminars and ongoing development.

If you believe you can rise to the challenge and you share our passion for excellence in all areas of field sales we would love to hear from you. Please send a cover letter with your CV to

admin@jkmarketingservices.co.uk

for immediate consideration or alternatively call Kayla on 01622 691 730 for an immediate appointment.

All applicants must be 18+ years of age and available for full time hours.

**To apply/more information:** JK Marketing

admin@jkmarketingservices.co.uk

SalaryJob Ref: kos

Activities Co-ordinator

**Gillingham SalarySalary**Negotiable Presigious Care Home seeks enthusiastic, flexible and innovative person to deliver diverse and stimulating activities.

Awareness of naval traditions an advantage. Hours and salary discussed at interview, please call 01634 852431 for application form.

Closing date for applications 1st October 2010.

**To apply/more information:** Royal Naval Benevolent Trust

jotrembeth@pembrokehouse-rnbt.org.uk

SalaryJob Ref: kos

QUALIFIED, REGISTERED DENTAL NURSE

**Tonbridge SalarySalary**Negotiable QUALIFIED, REGISTERED DENTAL NURSE REQUIRED FULL-TIME OR PART TIME FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE MONTH . PLEASE CALL FOR DETAILS 01732 363 413 AT 13 LONDON ROAD, TONBRIDGE

**To apply/more information:** George Krajewski Dental Practice

george.krajewski@sky.com

SalaryJob Ref: kos

Parcel Sorters/Loaders

**Larkfield Salary**-£6 p/h This job is a temporary role leading up to Christmas. Hours are either 4am - 8am or 4pm-8pm. Duties will include unloading parcels of varying size from lorries into cages and sorting by postcode, and loading ready for despatch. Applicants must be numerate & literate and have previous manual handling experience.

**To apply/more information:** Best Connection Agency (The) maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

SalaryJob Ref: kos

## Retail, Wholesale, Sales

### TRAINEE SALES PEOPLE

#### West Kent

**SalarySalary**Negotiable BLACK TIE FOODS are looking for TRAINEE SALES PEOPLE in the West Kent area. **To apply/more information:** Black Tie Foods Ltd blacktie@btconnect.com SalaryJob Ref: KOS

### Sales People

#### London & South East

**SalaryCompetitive** A superb opportunity has arisen to join one of the UK's leading maintenance and installers of access equipment. They have arguably the best reputation in the UK and pride themselves upon high quality and service. To build upon longstanding success they require a dynamic self motivated sales person who can help them maintain and develop the growth of the business. In return they will offer a competitive salary with company vehicle.

The role will be to manage existing accounts as well as winning new business in installation and service. You will be mainly working in London and the South East. The role will also involve contact on a daily basis with an existing variety of customers in which it will be essential to maintain good relationships.

You will be computer literate and have experience in a similar background, selling a service not just making a sale. A proven track record is essential.

If you would like to be considered for this position, please forward your CV with a covering letter stating why you are suitable for this role to HR Dept Box 126, Applebarn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS.

**To apply/more information:** Inroland

tony@inroland.co.uk

SalaryJob Ref: kos

## Transport, Logistics, Aviation

### LGV C (HGV2) Driver

#### Aylesford

**Salary**circa -£26000 per year Our client, a leading distributor of chilled and frozen food, is looking for LGV C (HGV2) Drivers to join their team at Aylesford on a temp to perm basis.

You will be required to carry out caged and palletised deliveries to customers in the South East. Up to 20-30 drops per day. The role will involve manual handling / handball. Start times between 0500 - 0700, between Monday to Saturday.

Due to insurance, applicants must be at least 21 and no more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). You must also be able to provide references for previous commercial driving work.

**To apply/more information:** Best Connection Agency (The) maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

SalaryJob Ref: KOS/AH/01

### LGV C+E (HGV1) Drivers

#### Mid Kent

**Salary**-£8.50+ per hour LGV C+E (HGV1) Drivers required for various driving assignments for our Kent based clients. Work available includes Supermarkets / Store Deliveries, General Haulage, Night Trunking plus more. Varying shifts :- Weekdays , Weekends, Earlys,

Lates, Nights. -£8.50+ per hour. Enhanced rates for Limited Company Drivers. Insurance restrictions differ between clients. In general, applicants must be over 25, and have more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). Applicants must also be able to provide references for previous commercial driving experience. The Best Connection Employment Group, Cornwallis House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1NY. Telephone: 01622 664999 **To apply/more information:** Best Connection Agency (The) maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

SalaryJob Ref: KOS/AH/02

### LGV C (HGV2) Drivers

#### Northfleet

**Salary**-£7.50 -£11.25 per hour

We are looking for LGV C (HGV2) Drivers to work at our Northfleet based client on a temporary / on going basis.

You will be delivering clean laundry and collecting of used laundry from hotels. Up to 20 drops per day. Drops can include both caged deliveries as well as handball. On some routes you may be accompanied by a Porter. Start times between 0400 -

1500, over Monday to Saturday. Due to insurance, applicants must be over 25, and have more than 6 points for minor endorsements (no DRs or DDs). Applicants must also be able to provide references for previous commercial driving experience.

The Best Connection Employment Group, Cornwallis House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1NY. Telephone: 01622 664999

**To apply/more information:** Best Connection Agency (The)

maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk

SalaryJob Ref: KOS/AH/03

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

**10/02898/HOUSE The Platters High Street, Brenchley**

- New garage (LB) (CA)

**10/03041/LBC Lees Court The Green, Brenchley**

- Listed Building Consent: Demolition of conservatory and single-storey side addition; Construction of single-storey side and rear extension with associated internal alterations (LB)

**10/03058/TELNS Land At (outside 43) Broadwater Down, Broadwater**

- Telecommunication Notification: Installation of broadband cabinet within the public highway (CA)

**10/02904/FUL Bramley Cottage Badsell Road, Capel**

- Change of use from holiday let to residential (LB)

**10/03050/FUL Southdown House Rock Villa Road, Culverden**

- Change of use to D2 gymnasium and associated alterations (CA)

**10/02808/HOUSE Swan Farm Swan Lane, Goudhurst**

- Conversion of upstairs floor of double garage to habitable accommodation (LB)

**10/03013/LBC Hillside Farm Riseden Lane, Goudhurst**

- Listed Building Consent - 1 1/2 storey side extension to form link to existing detached studio with demolition of conservatory and toilet block - amended proposal for "studio" element (TW/09/00263 refers) (LB)

**10/02566/FUL 65 Frant Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**

- Detached rear store room constructed on existing greenhouse base in rear garden (CA)

**10/02984/FUL Flat 3 14 Frant Road, Pantiles & St Marks**

- Replacement conservatory to side of property in UPVC (CA)

**10/03019/HOUSE 79B Frant Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**

- Two-storey side extension (CA)

**10/03060/TELNS Pavement Outside 6 Broad Grove Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**

- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of a 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

**10/03062/TELNS Pavement Outside 55 Frant Road, Pantiles & St Marks**

- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of a 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

**10/03064/TELNS Pavement Adjoining 41 Warwick Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**

- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of a 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

**10/02972/FUL 16 The Ferns Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**

- Provision of french windows and air source heat pump to flank elevation. Removal of kitchen door and window and installation of window.

Installation of flat glass rooflight to flat roof and internal alterations (CA)

**10/03061/TELNS Pavement Outside 1 Prospect Road Calverley Road, Park**

- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of a 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (LB) (CA)

**10/03065/TELNS Land At (outside 2) Carlton Road, Park**

- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of broadband cabinet within the public highway (CA)

**10/03066/TELNS Land Outside Beechwood Sacred Heart School, Park**

- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of broadband cabinet within the public highway (CA)

**10/03075/TELNS Junction With Pembury Road Halls Hole Road, Park**

- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of a 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

**10/03048/HOUSE 6A Apsley Street Rusthall, Rusthall**

- Erection of lean-to/car port structure to side of house (CA)

**10/03057/TELNS Pavement Outside 30 Lower Green Road, Rusthall**

- Telecommunications Notification - Installation of a 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

**10/03059/TELNS Land At Rusthall Road, Rusthall**

- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

**10/03029/HOUSE The Lodge Pembury Road, Sherwood**

- Single-storey extension (CA)

**10/02975/FUL 62 London Road Southborough, Southborough And High Brooms**

- Change of use of offices to residential. Removal of step from pavement to path. (CA)

**10/03021/HOUSE Greenhurst 1 Holden Road, Southborough North**

- Three-storey rear extension with new dormers to rear (CA)

**10/02973/HOUSE Lakeside Cottage Fordcombe Road, Speldhurst**

- Replacement entrance gates and fencing (LB)

**10/02974/LBC Lakeside Cottage Fordcombe Road, Speldhurst**

- Listed Building Consent - Replacement entrance gates and fencing (LB)

**10/03054/TELNS Land At (Outside Spa Hotel) Langton Road, Broadwater**

- Telecommunications Notification: Installation of 1.6m high green telecommunications cabinet (CA)

(DEV/PLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA)

Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website ([www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk](http://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk)), at The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to [planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe, Head of Planning Services  
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 02 October 2010





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#### LICENSING ACT 2003

##### APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE/CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE

An application for a Premises Licence at Vineyard House, Baden Powell Road, Riverhead, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN13 2EE has been made by Mrs S Schofield and Mr P Schofield.

A summary of the proposed licensable activities and the proposed hours of opening:

To open from 09:00 to 17:00 hours Monday to Friday for sale or supply of alcohol.

This site will only be used to store the occasional delivery from the main warehouse. Deliveries will never be outside the hours of 9:00 to 17:00 hours and will only be on an "as needs" basis. The company is website based with Direct Sales force. This is just a headquarters taking admin orders.

Any person wishing to view details of an application can contact the licensing team on 01732 227004

Any person wishing to make representation about the proposals should make them in writing by 21/10/10 to:

Licensing Partnership, Council Offices, PO Box 182, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN13 1GP, licensing@sevenoaks.gov.uk www.sevenoaks.gov.uk

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary of conviction for the offence is £5,000.

#### LICENSING ACT 2003

Application has been made to Medway Council for a new premises licence under section 17 of the Act by Tesco Stores Ltd, in respect of Tesco, Courteney Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0GX to sell alcohol for 24 hours Monday to Sunday. The licensing register and a record of the application may be inspected at the offices of Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TR between 09:00 – 17:00 Monday to Friday via the telephone, or by appointment between 10:00 – 12:00 and 1400 – 1600 Monday to Friday, except public holidays. Any representation by a responsible authority or an interested party must be made in writing to the council by 20th October 2010.

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application, for which a person is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of £5,000.

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#### HIGHWAYS – District of Ashford

##### MOUNTS LANE, ROLVENDEN - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of the installation of a new water mains, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mounts Lane, Rolvenden, on or after 18 October 2010 for up to 10 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with A28 Rolvenden Hill and Pix's Lane.

The alternative route is via A28 Tenterden Road, High Street, Maytham Road and Pix's Lane.

#### HIGHWAYS – District of Canterbury

##### RABBIT HOLE, BARHAM - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works to install new kerbs to alleviate drainage problems, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Rabbit Hole, Barham on or after 4 October 2010 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Brickfield Road and Church Lane.

The alternative route is via Brickfield Road, Valley Road, The Street and Church Lane.

##### QUEENS ROAD, WHITSTABLE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of works to replace kerbs and reconstruct footways, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Queens Road, Whitstable, on or after 18 October 2010 for up to 17 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in phases as follows:

**Between Graystone Road and Bennells Avenue** from 18 October 2010 for up to 8 weeks

The alternative route is via Graystone Road, Northwood Road and Pier Avenue.

**Between St Anne's Road and Graystone Road** from approximately 6 December 2010 for up to 4 working weeks.

The alternative route is via St Anne's Road, Northwood Road and Graystone Road.

**Between Castle Road and St Anne's Road** from approximately 17 January 2011 for up to 5 weeks.

The alternative route is via Church Road, Northwood Road and St Anne's Road.

The dates of the second and third phases are approximate guidelines, and may vary subject to weather and ground conditions. The exact dates will be notified to local residents and signposted on site.

The various side roads joining Queen's Road will be closed at their junctions with Queen's Road as the works progress, but can still be accessed from their junctions with Northwood Road.

#### HIGHWAYS - Borough of Sevenoaks

##### CHART LANE, BRASTED - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Chart Lane, Brasted between its junction with Emmetts Road and Pipers Green Road.

The Order will become effective on 4th October 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 25th October and last 4 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Chart Lane, High Street, New Road and Emmetts Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a sewer connection.

##### GRANVILLE ROAD, SEVENOAKS - PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Granville Road Sevenoaks from its junction with London Road to boundary with Granville Court on or after Monday 18th October 2010 for a period of up to 15 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is via: Eardley Road and A224 London Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate construction of a new highway retaining structure.

Purelake New Homes Ltd, apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Kevin Crew on 0208 244 2420.

##### WOOD STREET AND SWANLEY VILLAGE ROAD, SWANLEY - (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Wood Street and Swanley Village Road between at the junction with School Lane and Church Road on or after 18th October for a period of up to 4 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is via Swanley Lane, High Street, B2173 London Road, A20 London Road, Main Road, Dartford Road, A225 Main Road and Ship Lane.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works to lay high and low voltage mains. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Steve Bicknell of Murphy's on 0800 083 5234.

##### BOTSOM LANE, WEST KINGSDOWN - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Botsom Lane, West Kingsdown from its junction with London Road for a distance of 100m.

The Order will become effective on 18th October 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 4 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: London Road, School Lane, Knatts Lane, Knatts Valley Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate drainage improvement works.

##### MANSE WAY, SWANLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Manse Way, Swanley for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 18th October 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 20th October 2010 and last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

#### HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

##### PUFFIN CROSSING - MILITARY ROAD, HYPHE - TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984 (AS AMENDED)

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council, as local traffic authority, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, propose to establish a crossing (Pelican) for pedestrians under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all their enabling powers, as follows:

**Military Road, Hythe:** 106 metres east of the west junction of Sir John Moore Avenue with Military Road.

##### EASTBRIDGE ROAD, DYMCURCH - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that to enable BT access to boxes to carry out cabling works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Eastbridge Road, Dymchurch, on or after 7 October 2010 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Sutton Farm and the junction with Church Road.

The alternative route is via Mill Road, St Mary's Road, the un-named road to Newchurch, The Street, Gammon's Farm Lane, Chapel Lane and Eastbridge Road.

##### VARIOUS ROADS, ELHAM & STELLING MINNIS - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of water mains renewal, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, Elham and Stelling Minnis, on or after 4 October 2010 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

For further information, please contact  
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800  
(local rate) or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)



The roads will be closed in 2 phases, as shown below.

**Clavertye & Droveaway, Elham** on or after 4 October 2010 for up to 8 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via High Minnis, Gate Lane, Chapel Lane and Mount Top

**Wheelbarrow Town, Stelling Minnis** on or after 15 November 2010 for up to 6 weeks.

The alternative route is via Bossingham Road, Curtis Lane, B2068 Stone Street, Mockbeggar and High Minnis.

The exact timing of the phases is dependent on ground conditions, but only one phase will be carried out at any one time. Residents will be advised of the timings as the works progress, and there will be signage on site.

#### HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

##### PLOUGH ROAD, EASTCHURCH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of water mains renewal, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Plough Road, Eastchurch, on or after 18 October 2010 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Warden Road and Garretts Farm. There will be no access for though traffic between the B2008 Eastchurch Road and Warden Road.

The alternative route is via High Street, Lower Road, B2008 Eastchurch Road, Plough Road, Marrowbone Hill and Plough Road.

#### HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

##### HIGH STREET & TOTBILL STREET, MINSTER - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on High Street & Tothill Street, Minster, Thanet, on or after 8 October 2010, for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

**High Street, Minster** will be closed on or after 8 October 2010 for up to 3 weekday nights.

The road will be closed between B2047 Monkton Road and Church Street.

The alternative route is via B2047 Tothill Street, B2048 Foxborough Lane, Bedlam Court Lane and Church Street.

**Tothill Street, Minster** will be closed on or after 13 October 2010 for up to 5 weekday nights.

The road will be closed between A299 Minster Roundabout and B2047 Monkton Road.

The alternative route is via A299 Canterbury Road West, Willets Hill, Monkton Street and Monkton Road.

The works will be carried out between the hours of 7.00 pm and midnight, with the roads re-opened outside these hours.

##### KING STREET & DANE ROAD, MARGATE - (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on King Street & Dane Road, Margate, on or after 21 October 2010 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Trinity Hill/Hawley Street and Park Road.

The alternative routes are:

**Eastbound** via B2055 Hawley Street, Union Crescent, Addington Road, Victoria Road, Thanet Road, Park Road

**Westbound** via Wilderness Hill, B2055 Northdown Road, Trinity Square and Trinity Hill.

Note that access to Dane Hill (one-way Street) will be maintained from Addington Street.

#### HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

##### NEW WHARF ROAD, TONBRIDGE - (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) (SUSPENSION OF ONE WAY ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on New Wharf Road from the junction of The High Street to the loading bay for Somerfield on or after 07:00hrs Saturday 9th October 2010 to 07:00hrs Monday 11th October 2010 or until such works are completed.

The one way orders on New Wharf Road, River Walk and Bradford Street are temporarily suspended during the time of the works to allow for access to The High Street via Bradford Street.

Southern Gas Networks and South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to provide new connections. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contacts are: SGN – Kim Gibbons on 01279 792233 and SEW – Sarah Cameron on 01634 276166.

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## Nissan's 'bulldog' may chew up the opposition

NISSAN may be about to savage the small car market in the same way as its niche-crunching Qashqai crossover did when launched three years ago.

The new five-door Juke certainly looks like it's up for a fight, thanks to bulldog styling that enables it to be part supermini, part SUV, and part sports hatch.

It has already put the bite on the Micra supermini – axed from the Nissan range completely after its distinctive styling failed to impress the male half of the motor market.

The pugnacious Juke is a fairly obvious effort to redress the balance, though I can see it appealing to the ladies too, and even the more hard-nosed buyers of both sexes will

By **STEVE LOADER**

like the way market watchers say depreciation will be as low as that of the BMW Mini – a real 'buy with confidence' vote.

The Japanese marque, which produces most of its big sellers on UK soil at Sunderland, has pitched its new package reasonably too, from £12,795.

It will also be able to 'walk the talk' as well if needed – four-wheel drive is an option to go with the butch styling as well as more economical front-wheel drive.

The sensible engine choices are a frugal 117PS (115bhp) 1.6-litre petrol and the familiar Renault-derived fuel-sipping 110PS (108bhp) 1.5-litre dCi diesel, but there is a 190PS (187bhp) performance flagship from £15,695.

The trim range comprises familiar Nissan specification levels – Visia, Acenta and Tekna – but even the entry-level Visia comes with 16-inch alloys, electronic stability system, six airbags, sports seats and air con.

Along with the innovative styling and roomy cabin there is also the new Nissan dynamic control system.

The Japanese marque says this is a central command and display module like no other, allowing the driver to alter the car's drive settings and functions such as climate control.

Nissan UK managing director Paul Willcox said: "For many years buyers in this sector have had a pretty conservative range to choose from. Now we have the Juke crossover which offers something innovative and exciting for the same price as a bland five-door hatchback."



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2009 (09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£10,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£10,995
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles.....	£9,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1800 miles.....	£9,995
2009 (09) DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 1900 miles.....	£9,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE ASENTA MPV AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 2000 miles.....	£9,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£9,495
2009 (09) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£8,995
2009 (59) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN SDR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 1200 miles.....	£7,995

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2008 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles.....	£10,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£9,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ASENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles.....	£9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles.....	£8,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (06) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, RED, 21000 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles.....	£8,495
2005 (05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles.....	£7,495
2005 (55) VAUXHALL TIGRA SPORT 16V TWINPORT MANUAL COUPE, BLACK, 26000 miles.....	£6,995

### FIESTA

2006 (56) FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 1600 miles, yes really under 2000 miles from new.....	£6,995
2007 (07) FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 16000 miles.....	£5,995

### FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

2009 (09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£10,995
2008 (58) FORD FOCUS STYLE SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles.....	£9,995
2008 (57) FORD FOCUS STYLE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles.....	£8,995
2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£7,495
2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£7,495
2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 14000 miles.....	£7,495
2005 (55) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 miles.....	£5,495

### FOCUS ESTATES

2007 (07) FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles.....	£7,995
2006 (56) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles.....	£7,495
2006 (56) FORD FOCUS LX 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles.....	£5,995

### RENAULT SCENIC

2010 (59) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles.....	£15,995
2007 (07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 T5TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, RED, 13000 miles.....	£8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles.....	£8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 T5TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (08) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (08) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, RED, 6000 miles.....	£8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles.....	£8,495
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles.....	£7,995
2008 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles.....	£7,995
2008 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles.....	£7,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles.....	£7,495
2006 (56) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 S5TR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles.....	£6,995
2004 (54) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE 16V MPV AUTO, BLACK, 27000 miles.....	£5,495

### RENAULT

2008 (57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 5000 miles.....	£12,995
2008 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles.....	£10,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£9,995
2008 (08) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 T5TR MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles.....	£9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles.....	£9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (58) RENAULT MEGANE EXPRESSION VVT 111 ESTATE CAR ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 600 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (58) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (58) RENAULT Clio EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles.....	£7,995
2008 (08) RENAULT Clio EXPRESSION 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£7,995
2007 (07) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles.....	£7,995
2006 (56) RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOURER 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles.....	£7,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 38000 miles.....	£7,495
2006 (06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, GOLD, 17000 miles.....	£6,995
2007 (07) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, RED, 13000 miles.....	£5,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MODUS PRIVILEGE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 39000 miles.....	£4,995

### CHEVROLET

2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£6,995
2009 (58) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£6,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles.....	£6,995
2009 (09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles.....	£6,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 miles.....	£6,995
2009 (09) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1200 miles.....	£6,495
2008 (08) CHEVROLET KALOS SX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£5,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£5,995
2006 (56) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles.....	£5,495
2008 (57) CHEVROLET KALOS SX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles.....	£5,495
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£4,995
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles.....	£4,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS SDR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£4,995
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles.....	£4,995

### HYUNDAI

2008 (08) HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, RED, 4000 miles.....	£11,995
2007 (56) HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles.....	£9,995
2008 (58) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£6,995
2007 (57) HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£5,995
2006 (56) HYUNDAI GETZ COX SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 miles.....	£5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA COX SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles.....	£5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA COX SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 miles.....	£5,995

### HYUNDAI

2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA COX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles.....	£5,995
2007 (57) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI SALOON AUTO, RED, 4000 miles.....	£5,995
2007 (07) HYUNDAI AMICA COX SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£5,495
2007 (57) HYUNDAI AMICA COX SDR HATCH AUTO, YELLOW, 9000 miles.....	£5,495

### KIA

2009 (09) KIA PICANTO 2 SDR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 2000 miles.....	£7,995
2008 (58) KIA PICANTO 2 SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles.....	£7,495

### DAIHATSU

2009 (09) DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, MAROON, 1900 miles.....	£9,995
2008 (08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£7,995
2008 (08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£7,995
2007 (57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£7,495
2007 (07) DAIHATSU SIRION SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles.....	£6,995
2007 (07) DAIHATSU SIRION 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles.....	£6,995

### BMW

2005 (55) BMW 3 SERIES 320D ES TOURING 6SPD MANUAL TD ESTATE, GREY, 5100 miles.....	£12,995
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### FIAT

2006 (56) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles.....	£5,995
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### FUSION

2010 (59) FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1400 miles.....	£11,995
2008 (08) FORD FUSION FUSION + SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (08) FORD FUSION FUSION + SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 3000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (08) FORD FUSION FUSION + SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles.....	£8,995
2009 (58) FORD FUSION STYLE CLIMATE SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles.....	£7,995
2007 (07) FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE SDR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles.....	£6,995

### CITROEN

2008 (58) CITROEN C4 SX 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1800 miles.....	£9,995
2006 (56) CITROEN XSARA PICASSO EXCLUSIVE 16V ESTATE AUTO, RED, 16000 miles.....	£6,995
2002 (02) CITROEN SAXO DESIRE 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 54000 miles.....	£2,995

### MONDEO

2006 (56) FORD MONDEO LX 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 24000 miles.....	£6,995
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### CORSA

2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£11,495
2009 (59) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£8,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,495
2007 (57) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 miles.....	£7,495
2006 (56) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, MAUVE, 19000 miles.....	£6,495
2006 (56) VAUXHALL CORSA ACTIVE 16V SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles.....	£5,495
2005 (05) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN CDTI 16V SDR TO HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 65000 miles.....	£4,495

### MAZDA

2008 (58) MAZDA 5 5 TS2 MPV AUTO, RED, 12000 miles.....	£12,995
2008 (58) MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA SDR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles.....	£10,995
2007 (57) MAZDA 3 3 TS SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles.....	£9,995
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles.....	£8,995
2007 (56) MAZDA 2 2 S SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles.....	£5,995

### SUZUKI

2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4500 miles.....	£9,995
2007 (07) SUZUKI IGNIS GLI VTT-S 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 9000 miles.....	£5,995

### TOYOTA

2007 (6) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles.....	£13,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 16000 miles.....	£13,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA RAV-4 XT3 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, GREY, 16000 miles.....	£13,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO 3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, RED, 25000 miles.....	£9,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA COROLLA 13 VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£9,995
2007 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA 13 VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, IONIX BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£9,995
2007 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA 13 COLOUR COLLECTION VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles.....	£9,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA AURIS 13 VVT-I MM SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (08) TOYOTA YARIS 13 VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (58) TOYOTA YARIS 13 VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO 3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles.....	£8,995
2006 (56) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 23000 miles.....	£7,495
2005 (05) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£6,995
2007 (07) TOYOTA YARIS 13 VVT-I MM SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles.....	£6,995
2005 (55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 5000 miles.....	£5,995
2004 (54) TOYOTA COROLLA 13 VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£5,995
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 6000 miles.....	£5,295
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I SDR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles.....	£5,995

### NISSAN

2007 (07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA SDR HATCH, FIRED IRON, 19000 miles.....	£10,995
2007 (07) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles.....	£10,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1600 miles.....	£9,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE ASENTA MPV AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 2000 miles.....	£9,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ASENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£9,995
2009 (09) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£8,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£8,995
2008 (08) NISSAN MICRA ASENTA PLUS SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles.....	£8,495
2008 (08) NISSAN NOTE ASENTA MPV AUTO, RED, 14000 miles.....	£8,495
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles.....	£8,495
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ASENTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles.....	£7,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPRINTA SDR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 18000 miles.....	£7,495
2006 (56) NISSAN MICRA SPRINTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles.....	£6,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPRINTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BEIGE/BUFF, 8000 miles.....	£6,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPRINTA SDR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 27000 miles.....	£5,995
2004 (04) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles.....	£5,495
2004 (54) NISSAN ALMERA TINO S SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 31000 miles.....	£4,995
2004 (04) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ARUBA BLUE, 12000 miles.....	£4,995
2002 (52) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 47000 miles.....	£3,495
2002 (52) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 31000 miles.....	£3,295

### ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE CDTI 5DR TO HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 11000 miles.....	£10,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 14000 miles.....	£9,995

### ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 HATCH AUTO, SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£8,495
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles.....	£7,995
2008 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 14000 miles.....	£7,995
2007 (07) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles.....	£7,495
2008 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 10000 miles.....	£6,995
2008 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 SDR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 miles.....	£6,995
2007 (07) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 19000 miles.....	£5,995



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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Chevrolet Range: Urban 42.8 (6.6)-21.5 (13.1), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2)-39.7 (7.1), Combined 55.4 (5.1)-30.3 (9.3), CO2 Emissions 119-234 g/km.



# FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



## No need of a crossover labelling for new Evoque

HAVING seen Nissan hit pay dirt with its Qashqai 'crossover', every manufacturer wants to quote the C-word or a variation on the theme.

But Land Rover may be stretching the point absurdly by describing its new Range Rover Evoque as a 'cross-coupe'... oh, please.

It's not as though this stunning all-new baby Range Rover, arriving next summer, really needs a fancy label; the designers have made a first-class job of transforming the earlier LRX concept into a full production model.

It grabs attention with more than its styling too; the archetyp-

al 4x4 brand will break with tradition by offering the Evoque in front-wheel drive as well as all-wheel format, though LR promises the latter delivers decent off-road ability.

Prices will start at £30,000 and the stripped back front-wheel drive versions will also dispel Land Rover's past image as a maker of gas guzzlers – not so long ago, the company's Midlands HQ was picketed by Greenpeace.

In its greenest form, the Evoque should be able to average nearly 60mpg and emit less than 130g/km of CO<sub>2</sub>.

## For the greener executive

LEXUS plans to appeal to company car drivers and their employers' greener instincts by launching the compact executive car sector's first hybrid.

Order books have opened for the £22,000 petrol-electric CT 200h, which is exempt from road tax through its 96g/km of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, can average nearly 70mpg, and attracts company car tax benefit-in-kind of just 10 per cent.

Toyota's luxury arm says the newcomer aims to attract younger cus-



tomers as well as offer an eco-friendly exec alternative to premium hatchbacks like the Audi A3 and BMW 1-

Series – deliveries begin early in 2011.

The car is a full hybrid, capable of running on its petrol engine or electric motor alone or with both working in combination, but comes only with an automatic continuously variable transmission (CVT) – sadly, this rather contradicts claims by Lexus that it will deliver a rewarding drive.

Nevertheless, the brand insists that a 'Sport' option on the gearbox will raise the tempo and the chassis has been developed specifically to deliver superior handling.



## It's smarter

SMART has given a facelift to its ForTwo city car icon, now on sale from £8,780.

The work is claimed to have improved style, comfort, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and equipment.

The styling is certainly softer, but improvements to the interior are the most noticeable, while the junior arm of Mercedes-Benz has responded to a perennial gripe by allowing the boot's lower tailgate to be released by either one of its two release levers rather than both – a bugbear when returning to the car heavily laden.

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all makes used



# Fiat-Chrysler alliance shifting into top gear, says Kent dealer

by  
**STEVELOADER**

**TIMES** are changing fast at Chrysler Jeep dealerships as the Fiat Group, the brands' new senior partner, starts to work changes.

Not so long ago the Italian industrial giant itself was struggling, so it knows a thing or two about turnarounds.

And Steve Handyside, dealer principal at Chrysler Jeep dealer Whitehouse Tonbridge, told Driving: "I've seen a few changes myself after some 40 years in the motor trade and with major brands like Ford, Vauxhall and Rover, but the new broom is impressive.

"We have had a whole new sophisticated dealership IT system online since the start of the month.

"And it's nice to know the Chrysler Jeep brands have some new investment and muscle behind them now, especially when you realise that Fiat makes more than cars."

In fact the Italian giant not only owns the Fiat car brand, but also Alfa Romeo, Lancia, Abarth, Ferrari and Maserati and makes motorcycles, trucks and vans, too. Beyond these it produces aircraft, and agricultural and construction machinery.

It also pioneered and remains a leader in production-line robots and is remembered for



**HELP:** The future of Chrysler's Grand Voyager MPV will depend on derivatives of models from smaller Fiats like the Bravo

a series of 1980s ads proclaiming the then Fiat Strada as 'hand-built by robots'.

Steve Handyside said: "The obvious benefits for us as a dealer is that we will soon get new Chrysler group models making use of the highly successful small car platforms and economical/low CO2 powertrains that Fiat does so well through models like the Fiat 500, Punto and Bravo.

"We will get them far faster than if the old group had to develop this type of production,

which is what the UK and European markets want in particular.

"It doesn't mean throwing away what Chrysler Jeep does so well; the Jeep brand will remain a 4x4 icon and the little Patriot remains a fantastic bargain in that class.

"The Grand Voyager will also remain one of our big hits as a full-size seven-seat MPV with all the toys and the Stow 'n' Go facility that allows luggage to be stashed beneath the floor or seats to fold away completely.

"I'm also pleased the 300C (saloon) – a fabulous attention-grabber for the Chrysler brand – will continue and we are doing the best-selling SRT pack for just £22,995.

"That's a lot of car for the money until a new model comes along eventually."

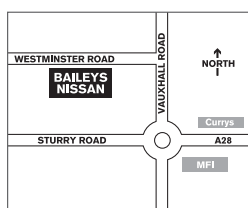
The Fiat Chrysler partnership started in early 2009, to create a credible rival to established global players Toyota, VW and the Renault-Nissan Alliance.

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\*Actual model shown is 1.6L Acenta with optional Sport pack priced at £14,095. Model shown has optional metallic paint worth £400 including VAT. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd., The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.

Pre-production fuel consumption figures for Juke range are: URBAN 44.8-27.7mpg/6.3-10.2L/100km – EXTRA URBAN 64.1-47.0mpg/4.4-6.0L/100km – COMBINED 55.3-37.2mpg/5.1-7.6L/100km. CO2 emissions are: 134-175g/km. Information correct at time of print. Official figures available at [www.nissan.co.uk](http://www.nissan.co.uk) from August 2010.



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\*VAT reduction (based on VAT at 17.5%) available on all Fabia (excluding vRS), Roomster and Octavia new car retail deliveries taken before 31st December 2010. Reduction applied to the RRP including factory fitted optional extras and is equivalent to the VAT applicable at the time. VAT is still applicable and will be shown on the customer's invoice. †0% APR typical is subject to a **minimum 50% deposit** and available over two years for orders taken before 30th September 2010 (subject to vehicle availability). Only available on Fabia Elegance, Scout and vRS, Roomster Scout, Octavia L&K, Scout, vRS and 4x4 new retail sales. Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18's. Excludes the Channel Islands. Škoda Finance. Freeport Škoda Finance. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at anytime. Prices and specifications are accurate at time of print.

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Škoda Range: Urban 19.6 (14.4) - 68.9 (4.1), Extra-urban 36.2 (7.8) - 94.2 (3.0), Combined 27.7 (10.2) - 83.1 (3.4). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the Škoda Range 89 - 237g/km.

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- Quadra-Trac II® 4WD system • Dual zone climate control
- Touchscreen multimedia system with 30GB hard drive • Mopar rear spoiler

Price from **£24995 SAVE £9000** RRP £33995



## BRAND NEW 60 REG SAVE £7000

### Chrysler 300C SRT Design Diesel Auto

- Brilliant Black • 20" alloys • Xenon headlamps • Cruise control
- Electric folding door mirrors • Leather-trimmed sports seats
- Front electric heated seats • Drivers memory seat • Auto lights and wipers
- Park assist • Dual zone climate control • Touchscreen multimedia system with 30GB hard drive • Colour coded SRT bodykit
- Bluetooth • European sat nav • Startech Bentley style grill

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### USED CARS

#### AGILA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlantis blue	9,350	8,995
09	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Lemon grass	1,350	9,495

#### ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	55	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	55,800	5,995
06	06	Astra Active Estate	1.6	5	Silver lightening	18,950	6,495
06	06	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	37,000	6,495
07	07	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Flame red	42,700	6,995
07	07	Astra Design	1.8	5	Silver lightening	45,000	6,995
07	07	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Black sapphire	43,250	6,495
07	57	Astra Design Estate	1.8	5	Pannacotta	41,725	6,995
07	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch CDTi	1.7D	3	Star silver	40,675	8,495
08	08	Astra Breeze CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	26,635	8,495
08	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	24,300	8,995
08	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Silver lightening	10,700	8,495
09	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	14,100	9,995
09	59	Astra Sxi eco flex	1.7D	5	Sovereign silver	3,400	12,495
09	59	Astra Sports Twin top	1.8	2	Air blue	3,320	15,995
09	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	4,960	9,995
09	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	3,990	9,995
09	59	New Astra Sri	1.6	5	Power red	5,340	14,495
09	59	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Technical grey	7,050	11,995
09	59	Astra Active Sports hatch	1.4	3	Sovereign silver	8,040	10,495
09	59	Astra Life MTA	1.6	5	Sovereign silver	10,270	9,995

#### CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	37,900	7,995
07	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Flame red	49,370	6,995
08	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Silver lightening	15,800	7,495
08	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Star silver	24,590	7,995
08	58	Corsa Club Auto	1.4	5	Star silver	24,060	8,995
09	09	Corsa Active	1.0	5	Star silver	6,270	8,475
09	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	9,950	8,995
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver lightening	800	9,995
09	59	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Black sapphire	6,350	9,395

09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening	5,980	9,995
09	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Metro blue	5,990	9,495
09	59	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	7,180	9,395
10	10	Corsa Energy	1.2	3	Black sapphire	2,340	10,995

#### INSIGNIA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	59	Insignia Elite CDTi Nav	2.0	5	Sovereign silver	6,550	21,995
09	59	Insignia CDTi ECO Exclusive	2.0	5	Silver lake	7,350	16,995

#### MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
08	58	Meriva Design X pack	1.8	5	Air blue	7,600	8,995

#### VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	56	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Metro blue	33,180	6,695
07	57	Vectra Sri CDTi	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	58,650	7,495

#### ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
09	59	Zafira Active Plus	1.8	5	Ultra blue	5,670	13,495

#### ANTARA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	07	Antara CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Metro blue	20,000	11,995
08	57	Antara CDTi E Auto	2.0	5	Slate blue	18,100	12,995
09	59	Antara Exclusive CDTi	2.0D	5	Placid grey	2,020	17,995

#### DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Star silver	9,290	6,995
06	56	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Metro blue	25,000	6,995
07	07	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Black sapphire	43,250	6,495
10	59	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue	5,660	17,995
08	08	Vectra Exclusive CDTi	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	16,100	8,495
08	08	Zafira Breeze +	1.9	5	Star silver	23,000	9,995
01	51*	Vectra Sxi	1.8	4	Black	71,000	2,495
06	56	Zafira Active	1.6	5	Metro blue	48,000	6,995
08	08	Zafira Breeze +	1.9	5	Star silver	23,000	9,995

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## DrivingReview



by  
**STEVE LOADER**

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT  
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

## Skoda Fabia

SKODA'S original 2000-vintage Fabia didn't storm any beauty contests, but it won many loyal recruits to the Czech brand at a crucial time.

It was lauded for practicality, reliability and a flexible five-door format.

The VW-owned company followed up in 2007 with more of the same, though clothed in a taller and even more versatile body that was less pugnacious and easier on the eye, but the estate model looks as awkward as it is practical – just as the MkI version did.

There were two all-new features of the line-up though; a fuel-sipping, low emission Greenline Estate – though I find this a little too bohemian despite its eco-friendly nature – and a pumped up Scout Estate model with pseudo off-road styling.

But for me, the most impressive thing has been the way mainstream Fabias tilt at the BMW Mini, with sporty accoutrements and customising options like two-tone paint, but a far more user-friendly body and more tempting pricing than the rather pokey BMW fashion item.

# Fabia continues to be little head-turner



Okay, you won't get a Mini Cooper in terms of image – some people with ridiculously long memories still bang on about Skoda's days as a Soviet Bloc brand – but Fabia prices start at £9,330 with a decent spec compared with the very basic Mini First at £11,160.

With such a modest start price you can either afford to trade up to the mid range SE or flagship Elegance spec, or invest in extras that you like – the Fabia looks good with alloys.

If you really want to go mad then there is

also the £15,700 vRS hot hatchback, a huge favourite in the MkI range and still sought after, now reborn with the new shape car.

Inside the Fabia we get the same robust materials and ample stowage as before, but a much 'sunnier' cabin – all a far cry from the Soviet Bloc Skoda's plastic-covered card trim of a few decades ago.

A decent size boot includes clever features, such as the 'bendy bin' that clips to the side of the boot and fences in loose items or shopping.

The chassis and handling of the mainstream models is one of the best in the supermini class for its combination of driving pleasure and decent ride quality – the vRS panders more to the sporting car buyer. Standard Fabias grip and corner with great style, helped by communicative steering and a decent gearshift.

I had mixed feelings about the 105bhp 1.9TDI engine in our SE hatchback £12,795 test car though. It's green, powerful and frugal – capable of averaging nearly 60mpg – but feels heavy and raucous except during motorway cruising when its economy is best enjoyed.

Consequently, would-be customers should also check out the cheaper 1.2 and 1.6-litre petrol and 1.4 diesel Fabia alternatives and I would highlight the 85bhp and 105bhp turbocharged petrol 1.2TSI versions (from £11,810) which deliver lively performance when required plus decent economy and low emissions.

We have said it before, but this type of engine is an increasingly attractive option in smaller cars rather than a diesel, which is heavier and affects the driving pleasure, more expensive upfront and also more wearing on tyres and front-end mechanicals. The fuel is cheaper, too.

In lieu of a breakthrough on small hybrids and/or electric models, small petrol engines have more of a future than we thought a few years ago.



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## DrivingPortfolio

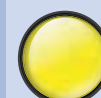
### SKODA FABIA 1.9TDI SE CR £12,795

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★★
Image	★★★
Space	★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★★★★
Road tax	£20/year (zero for year one)
Best rival	Toyota Yaris

## TheVerdict



**DON'T LIKE:**  
the awkward styling of the estate version



**NOT SURE:**  
the diesels are worth paying any more money for



**REALLY LIKE:**  
how Skoda has enhanced the practicality of its junior model making it much better looking

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- Leather-trimmed sports seats • Front and rear heated seats • Privacy glass
- Front electric seats • Auto lights and wipers • Front and rear park assist
- Quadra-Trac II® 4WD system • Dual zone climate control
- Touchscreen multimedia system with 30GB hard drive • Mopar rear spoiler

**Price from £24995 SAVE £9000 RRP £33995**



## BRAND NEW 60 REG SAVE £7000

### Chrysler 300C SRT Design Diesel Auto

- Brilliant Black • 20" alloys • Xenon headlamps • Cruise control
- Electric folding door mirrors • Leather-trimmed sports seats
- Front electric heated seats • Drivers memory seat
- Auto lights and wipers • Park assist • Dual zone climate control
- Touchscreen multimedia system with 30GB hard drive • Colour coded SRT bodykit • Bluetooth • European sat nav • Startech Bentley style grill

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FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE GRAND CHEROKEE S-LIMITED 3.0 V6 DIESEL IN MPG (L/100KM): URBAN 21.6 (13.1), EXTRA URBAN 32.8 (8.6), COMBINED 27.7 (10.2). CO2 EMISSIONS IN G/KM 270. Fuel Consumption figures for Journey 2.0 CRD SE manual in mpg (l/100 km): Urban 34.4 (8.2), Extra Urban 55.4 (5.1), Combined 44.8 (6.3). CO2 emissions 165 g/km Fuel Consumption figures for 300C 3.0 CRD Salon in mpg (l/100 km): Urban 27.7 (10.2), Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2), Combined 36.7 (7.7). CO2 emissions (combined) 215 g/km Models featured have optional metallic paint at an additional £500 including VAT. On the road price includes Vehicle Excise Duty (VED), First Registration Fee and VAT but excludes Metallic paint option and any Factory Fitted options that selected models may include. This price focused offer supercedes all previous offers and part exchange valuations from Whitehouse.







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## BUSINESS



## WEEK



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## INSIDE THIS WEEK

WHO said the 'greening' of business would never catch on?

Prior to the downturn, many sceptics said eco-friendly measures failed to heed that other eco factor – the one forming part of the word 'economy'.

But that was before the crash and the realisation that saving the environment can also save firms cash – not to mention public credibility.

So it is perhaps no wonder then that this week's Spotlight on commercial property has a strong green theme running through it.

**STEVE LOADER** BUSINESS EDITOR

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EMAIL: steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

## CONTACTS

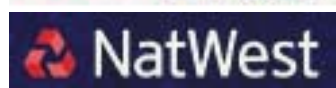
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## KEY PARTNERS



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# Saga pensions champ throws down gauntlet

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

NEWLY appointed pensions champion Dr Ros Altmann went on the offensive quickly this week, accusing the previous Labour government of abusing an older generation's spirit of self-reliance.

She also warned the new coalition not to imagine it could do the same and called upon businesses to help employees plan for their future on the pensions front and through part-time 'top-up' employment opportunities.

Dr Altmann is director-general designate – an all-new post – for the Folkestone-based Saga group, specialising in services for the over-50s.

An experienced City financier and pensions guru, she and Saga teamed up previously during a lengthy pensions row, started in 2002 when workers at the Allied Steel and Wire



**ROS ALTMANN**

plants at Sheerness and Cardiff realised there would be a massive shortfall in their pensions. It blew up into a national issue as the whole UK private and pensions structure was exposed as complex and under-funded, with the expectations of pensioners-to-be falling well below what they would receive.

And just as she highlighted the need to restore and refinance the pensions system, Dr Altmann was horrified this week to hear Deputy Governor of the Bank of England Charlie Bean confirm the bank was intent on keeping interest rates low in order to persuade people to spend their savings and help the economic recovery.

She told Business Week: "That makes it particularly tough on the older population who are trying to eke out returns from dwindling savings

and pensions. He (Bean) should be encouraging people to save – not punishing them. We must wake up to the realities of an ageing population and one that has been taken advantage of – they need a champion.

"Unfortunately, this is the generation brought up to not make a fuss and that makes it too easy for the powers that be to ignore them and listen to the younger generations.

"These people and their parents helped rebuild Britain after the war. They were led to believe by government that they would get a good pension, but the British state pension is the lowest pro rata in the developed world. They have also seen their savings and private pensions decimated."

But she was confident she could mobilise a famously uncomplaining generation of post-war baby-boomers to fight for their pension rights:

"If Government thinks people in their 50s and 60s will take whatever is thrown at them, then I hope it is sadly mistaken."

• **For more about Saga's new pensions trouble-shooter see the Big Interview inside.**

## TV rescue show takes a shine to worktops

WORKSHOPS at a Tunbridge Wells company went to action stations after a hit TV show sent out a distress call.

DIY SOS, the BBC's flagship renovation programme, needed new kitchen worktops – fast. Granite Transformations, at the spa town's Decimus industrial park, responded with some of its innovative products made from recycled wine and beer bottles. The sparkling green surfaces formed the centrepiece of a 'rescue' in South Wales by the show, presented by Nick Knowles.

Granite Transformations' products had been spotted by the DIY SOS interior designer Julia Kendell. She contacted the Kent firm, which agreed to contribute materials and services free and sent a crack team to Wales: UK chief operating officer Danny Hanlon – also a qualified fitter – and technical training specialist, Steve Cooper.

Within hours they had helped transform a terrace house where DIY projects had gone wrong, leaving the house virtually uninhabitable.

Julia described the recycled glass surface as "a beautiful thing" and "proper shiny" while members of the Price family, who own the makeover house, were moved to tears.



**TOPPING OFF:** Julia and Danny Hanlon who work at Granite Transformations pictured near the end of their rescue mission



**POSITIVE:** Visit Kent's Sandra Matthews-Marsh

SUMMER may have drizzled away towards the end, but sunny June and July delivered a bumper tourism season, says Visit Kent.

Its Business Barometer shows attractions welcomed more than 426,000 visitors in July alone – three per cent more than for the same month last year.

The sunshine was even more welcome in coastal resorts, where visitor attractions reported a 15 per cent leap, according to the tourism partnership of public and private sector bodies.

In the same month, cross-Channel carriers transported 12 per cent more passengers and cars and four per cent more coaches. Business tourism providers enjoyed a 23 per cent boost.

## Sunny side up as attractions report boost

There are signs, too, that more Kent visitors are staying overnight, with B&Bs and guest houses reporting a 12 per cent increase in guests against July, 2009, and occupancy in larger hotels was up seven per cent.

Visit Kent chief executive Sandra Matthews-Marsh said: "The upward trend is continuing which is great news in this challenging economic climate. The vast majority of visitors,

about 80 per cent, are from the UK but thanks to the strong euro we are seeing more overseas visitors, particularly from France and Germany.

"Furthermore, our business and leisure events programme across the county has been very strong this summer which attracted additional visitors. Our partners have been very creative with their events programmes and product development."

The www.visitkent.co.uk website was also proving a success. "Potential visitors are finding out more about Kent and Medway online and we are converting that interest into actual visits," she said.

Kent welcomes 45 million visitors each year, contributing more than £2.5 billion to the economy.



# Comment

WE HAVE a Chad-style expression used in our house when one of us buys any cheap tat.

"Wot, more landfill?" one will say helpfully as the other ponders the wisdom of yet more retail therapy.

Without sounding like an old fart, where we once used to mend and recycle stuff that was well manufactured in the first place, we have become used to dump and re-buy. Usually it's junk with a Made in China label on it – no wonder our import-bloated economy's in a skip and perilously close to going to landfill itself.

It's an eco-nonsense in both economic and ecological terms and my despair is not helped by stories like that on the facing page, where we find that our supermarkets and other food retailers – the envy of the world we were told for so many years (ha!) – dump 80,000 fridge display units every year.

As Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Gordon Henderson says in the story, this is "scandalous". Quite.

I'm willing to bet these each cost a lot more than the Hotpoint chugging away in the average kitchen and yet they are dumped readily and replaced with imports largely from – you've guessed it – China.

Fortunately, while some of these discarded units actually will be knackered rather than just dated cosmetically, a Kent firm appears to be making a decent business out of recycling and remanufacturing them, while creating jobs and saving resources and cutting transport pollution.

What is both worrying yet potentially encouraging is that this story could be replicated across many sectors. Items that were previously landfill could now be diverted into new business opportunities, saving jobs, wealth and the environment, rather than bumping up imports, exporting jobs and hiking carbon emissions. More "Make do and mend" and "Waste not, want not" than "Wot, more landfill?"

BUSINESS EDITOR STEVE LOADER

WOT,  
MORE  
LANDFILL?



## Church arts hub rebirth welcomed

PERMISSION to transform Ashford's landmark St Mary's Church into a community arts hub has advanced development of the former market town.

Judith Armitt, MD of development agency Ashford's Future told Business Week in a recent interview that she saw the amenity potential of the historic building as a small yet crucial part of her organisation's £2.5 billion development strategy, which includes 28,000 jobs, 31,000 homes and two million square feet of new commercial space.

St Mary's has hosted music and arts for 20 years, and partnered the bor-

ough council last year to apply successfully to Ashford's Future for £1.2 million in growth area funding towards £1.7m needed overall to update its facilities.

But the project was delayed by an objection made to the Church, now overruled by an ecclesiastical court.

Mrs Armitt said: "After an extended opportunity for all objections and support to be heard, we are at last able to proceed. I am delighted we can start work on this fantastic project and welcome in a new era of arts excellence for Ashford. This venue will be a boost for residents and should be finished by next summer."

St Mary's vicar, the Rev Colin Preece, said the building would not be lost as a place of worship: "St Mary's Church is, and should always be, a shared sacred space for both religious and secular visitors." He added: "This work will not only safeguard the future of this ancient building, but will also bring many more people from all walks of life through its doors."

The revamped building will accommodate up to 350 people after the fitting of movable seating, a new floor with underfloor heating, stage lighting, more toilets, improved disabled access, a better kitchen, refurbished meeting rooms, and a general upgrade.

## The full Monty with Belmont now online

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

MANY Kent businesses are looking inwards as they seek to rebuild the county's fortunes after the recession.

Chambers of commerce and other groups speak about a spirit of co-operation between firms and 'keeping it in the family', and it's a theme now picked up by Sevenoaks-based insurance brokers Belmont International and new employee 'Monty'.

He is the fictional face for a new initiative by the firm that takes it into the one-stop-shop/buy online sector for the first time, but also seeks to deal direct with smaller local Kent businesses, both as customers and sup-

pliers. Belmont founder and MD Barrie Etchells admitted there was an element of 'if you can't beat them, join them' about the initiative.

"We've always majored on matching business customers with the right policies and cover to suit specific needs, but recognise some people find insurance boring and want a quick fix by shopping online," he said.

"Rather than see that business go elsewhere, we have created a strong range of products easily accessed online and championed by a friendly face – Monty. You don't have to look hard to see where his name came from.

"However, in addition to inviting people to contact Monty online, we've also invited them to call him direct, ensuring we encourage the customer contact and service that we stress within our business."

But he added that the Monty concept was not only about Kent businesses dealing with a local broker and avoiding the frustrations of an overseas call centre.

"This will be a Kent-to-Kent operation as far as possible," he said. "Customers will know they are talking to someone in Kent and if work is required via a claim, that will be carried out by a Kent professional, contractor or company unless it's a very specialised job that needs to go further afield."

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Stephanie Durling of Produced in Kent talks to Julie Maddocks about the Hops and Downs Beer Trail and Kent's brewing heritage



■ THISTLE Hotels has appointed its star manager Alan Whiteley to run Thistle Brands Hatch.

Whiteley started in the industry 17 years ago as a kitchen porter on leaving school and makes the move from Thistle Middlesbrough, where he helped it become the star performer of the group.

His new challenge is to revitalise a hotel overlooking Kent's famous motor racing circuit, but Whiteley said: "It was one I just couldn't turn down. Having undergone recent refurbishment, Thistle Brands Hatch has huge potential and this is a great opportunity for me to really put my mark on it. I've got lots of ideas and I aim to make Thistle Brands Hatch the flagship hotel of the group."

■ OPEN Farm Sunday, farming's annual open day is now a bigger attraction than Glastonbury, says organiser LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming).

The body has just reviewed the event held on June 13 and announced that 184,000 members of the public, including many city dwellers, visited 420 farms across the UK – a 31 per cent increase on 2009.

"In its five-year history this valuable initiative has helped about three-quarters of a million people see how their food is grown, its links with nature and why farms matter," said a spokesman. "Open Farm Sunday does this through fun and engaging activities put on by farmers who share a passion for farming and a desire to show people how food is produced."

Next year's event is set for June 12.

■ SALES on the high street in September were higher than a year ago – the third consecutive year-on-year increase and beating forecasts, according to a CBI survey.

Sixty per cent of retailers surveyed said sales volumes rose during the month, while 11 per cent said it fell, giving a balance of +49 per cent – the highest balance since May, 2004, (+51), and compares with an expected figure of +39 last month. October is expected to be nearly as good at +47. The clothing and footwear and leather sub-sectors were particularly strong, possibly due to new autumn ranges.

■ EMPLOYMENT lawyers at Furley Page are presenting another of the firm's strategic workshops on October 20 in association with Thames Gateway (Kent) Chamber of Commerce.

Partner Andrew Masters said: "Employment is a complex and constantly changing area of the law – particularly now under the coalition government which has indicated it will carry out a comprehensive review of employment laws to ensure maximum flexibility, protect fairness and promote competitiveness. The changes will affect all businesses and employers need to have a clear understanding of best HR practice to avoid unnecessary and costly disputes."

Workshops are open to chamber members and non-members and held at the Thames Gateway (Kent) Chamber of Commerce offices, Stirling House, Sunderland Quay, Midway City Estate, Rochester. Call Sharon Hogbin on 01634 311441, or email [shogbin@tgcoc.co.uk](mailto:shogbin@tgcoc.co.uk), for more information.

■ STAFF from Vertex Law took to the high ground to raise £750 for vulnerable children. A team of four: Hazel Dermody, James Beaton, Katie Gotterson and Gemma Brown, joined an 18-mile sponsored hike along the North Downs from Wye to Capel-le-Ferne in aid of the Caldecott Foundation charity for children and young people.

# Building green reputation with second award victory

NOT happy with just one award, a Sevenoaks firm has excelled once again to win a second consecutive Environment Award for Kent Business, *writes Steve Loader*.

H+H UK, which produces aircrete blocks, was named Kent Environment Business of the Year 2010 at Salomons in Tunbridge Wells, and is seen as a leader in sustainability within the construction industry.

The firm manufactures thermally insulating, recyclable blocks and was recognised last year for achievements in resource efficiency including reduced fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions from its factory in Borough Green.

The company was also the first UK aircrete and precast concrete manufacturer to achieve certification to Carbon Trust Standard.

However, H+H went even further this year by becoming one of the first UK construction companies to achieve BES 6001 certification, which ensures products are made using responsibly sourced materials, and the company operates a sustainable supply chain.

Kent County Council is an award sponsor and Cllr Nick Chard, cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, was impressed by the quality of entries.

He said: "Yet again Kent has wowed us with the wide range of businesses that are dedicat-



WINNER: Gary Thwaites of H+H with trophy

ed to becoming more eco-friendly. It is vital that we continue to highlight the green option because, as this year's winners show, it can set you apart from competitors at a time when more people are looking for companies with excellent environmental credentials."



VISIT: Mr Henderson flanked by Bond's Jon Longhurst, left, and Chris Woollett

## Chilling waste of resources

FRIDGE mountains have been targeted by an MP to help boost jobs on Sheppey.

Gordon Henderson, the Tory MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, learned that 80,000 refrigeration display units are thrown away every year when many could be remanufactured by companies like Bond Retail Services at Sheerness.

He aims to lobby the Government to try to level this pile of waste created by supermarkets and other retailers.

The MP met Bond employees whose remanufacturing means the carbon footprint of the fridge is reduced, energy efficiency boosted and landfill avoided.

He heard that many retailers are switching to the revitalised cabinets – but not enough or fast enough.

Mr Henderson said: "I'll be pressing the Government to encourage supermarkets to refurbish refrigerators. It's scandalous that 80,000 are scrapped every year and replaced by equipment often imported from overseas."

"If we can double the number of units we refurbish we can cut our carbon footprint and allow companies such as Bond to expand and create more jobs."

The Bond Group was established at Sheerness in 1976 and has sites in Telford, Swindon, Stoke-on-Trent and Falkirk.



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## Dragon star waits to judge

**ENTREPRENEUR** Charmaine Kemp has been shortlisted for a prestigious award that would bring a £10,000 boost to her fledgling business.

The 28 year-old from Dartford has a place in the Shell Livewire Young Entrepreneur of the Year finals on Wednesday, October 13, when the judges will include Dragons' Den star Duncan Bannatyne.

Charmaine started her business, Wheelie Good Mobility, in May, 2009, after spotting a gap in the market for affordable used mobility scooters.

Within six weeks of start-up, she had gained a grant from the Prince's Trust and her spirit of enterprise is just what the Shell Livewire judges will be looking for says Shell UK chairman and awards host James Smith.

"Entrepreneurs can breathe new life into our economy," he said. "The Shell Livewire Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award provides a vital boost to entrepreneurs. I wish Charmaine and all the other finalists the very best of luck."

Charmaine said: "Being a graduate during the recession gave me the push I needed to start my own business. My company makes me feel good about what I do and allows me to help others, and it is a huge honour to be recognised by a national award."

The awards ceremony will follow an action-packed day at Shell Livewire LIVE! – an event for members of Shell Livewire's 100,000-strong online community of entrepreneurs.

The event provides a forum to



CHARMAINE KEMP

share ideas, insights and inspiration with young business people from around the country, as well as the chance to attend seminars and workshops and to put questions to top business talent from across the UK, including Sir Tom Farmer, founder of Kwik-Fit.

Shell Livewire also supports young entrepreneurs with its Grand Ideas Awards. Every month, up to six aspiring entrepreneurs are awarded a Shell Livewire Grand Ideas Award of £1,000 to fund an innovative project to help get their business idea off the ground.

The enterprise scheme also hosts a business networking community at www.shell-livewire.org with more than 100,000 members, enabling the best business brains from every corner of the nation to share ideas, insights and inspiration with fellow entrepreneurs who understand the challenges they are facing.



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# Saga pensions baby-boomers

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK

## THE BIG INTERVIEW

Pensions are set to become a big social issue as the Bank of England seeks to peg interest rates and exhorts the UK to spend its way out of sluggish post-recession growth. This does not help the savings and pensions of baby boomers, the generation who looked ahead to a comfortable retirement only to find their dreams wrecked by the UK's pensions strategy of the past 10-15 years.

Kent-based Saga – the insurance to travel group for the over-50s – decided someone needed to champion their cause and the generations to follow, and turned to a familiar face, Dr ROS ALTMANN. She will soon take up an all-new role at Saga as director-general, but she is already relishing the challenge of representing the concerns and interests of the UK's 21 million people aged over 50 – as she told a greying business editor Steve Loader



ROS ALTMANN

**P**ENSIONS, we always heard, are a lifetime investment – the message underlined by glossy brochures featuring greying yet fit and tanned couples on a cruise, driving sports cars or relaxing on the golf course.

And we all bought into it, of course, until Britain's once rock-solid pensions structure started crashing around our ears.

The first major public sign came in 2002, when workers at the Allied Steel and Wire plants at Sheerness and Cardiff realised there would be a massive shortfall in their pensions. The crisis brought Dr Ros Altmann to the fore to champion their cause and many others wronged by the system.

She spearheaded a battle lasting more than five years, forcing the Government to compensate 150,000 workers who lost their final salary company pensions after being falsely assured by ministers that their pensions were completely safe.

She created the Pensionstheft Action Group and used the battle cry across the media: "Stripped of our pensions". Unwisely, the Government had come up against an adversary who had also invested a lifetime in pensions – as an academic, City high-flier and, latterly, as a campaigner and consultant.

### ROS ALTMANN'S CV

- 1974 – read economics at University College London, London School of Economics, and at Harvard University.
- 1981 – joined Prudential
- 1984 – joined Chase Manhattan
- 1989 – joined Rothschild
- 1991 – joined NatWest
- 1993 – took a career break with birth of third child
- 2000 – Government policy advisor
- 2005 – embarked on a career as a wide-ranging policy advisor, media commentator, columnist and author.



**NO JOKE:** Dr Altmann, who won the Pensions Personality of Year Award two years running, with awards host and comedian Jimmy Carr

Dr Altmann was able to continually raise the stakes in an increasingly bitter battle, and even sparked a back-bench rebellion within the Blair Government.

Nevertheless, she still harbours reservations about the campaign's success: "We won, but it took too long. Too many people died in misery."

It goes a long way to explaining why 54-year-old Dr Altmann feels re-energised by the opportunity presented by her new role: "Saga has always cared about its customers and the needs of people over 50. It helped with our campaign and was the only company that did, and I was impressed then with their caring attitude and concern."

It sounds like the feeling was mutual, culminating





# guru Ros urges to make a fuss



**YOU'RE WELCOME:** A thank you for Dr Altmann from grateful footsoldiers in the great pensions fight

recently in a lunch invitation from Saga's multi-millionaire boss Andrew Goodsell, who helped mastermind the union between his company and the AA.

Dr Altmann said of the invitation: "I didn't know what he had in mind, but it soon became clear that it was an obvious and logical opportunity for me.

"So many financial companies have ripped people off, but here is a real opportunity to do something from within the industry, although I won't know for a while yet how it will all work and who best to work with."

**A**ndrew Goodsell said her appointment "reinforces our commitment to champion our customers' needs and interests. With her policy background and in-depth grasp of pensions, retirement and finance, Ros is well placed to ensure politicians and others sit up and take notice".

But Dr Altmann recognises she faces an uphill struggle motivating people not used to fighting for their rights.

"Unfortunately, this is the baby boomer generation, brought up to 'not make a fuss' and that makes it too easy for politicians to ignore them and listen to and make policies catering for younger generations, who are much more aware of how to fight their case," she said.

And she has little sympathy for the argument that while they may have seen their pensions decimated, they have seen the value of their houses appreciate. Not all are home owners, she points out, and many of the rest face selling a much cherished property where they hoped to enjoy retirement rather than sell to fund one. "It's a familiar phrase, but many have been left asset rich and cash poor," she said.

"The over-50s have enormous power, if only they would use it, but they are simply not used to wielding it.

## ROS'S TOP TIPS

- Don't let the jargon beat you – "So many people get put off by it. Too many companies and organisations use it to try to make you give up on checking or pursuing something. Don't let them succeed. Don't be afraid to ask for advice."
- Don't fall for the corporate line – "Do your utmost to be honest. Sometimes it's not easy to avoid taking the company's view but it will come back to haunt you. And say what you think."
- Be persistent – "If you believe in what you are doing, just keep plugging away."
- Go and see your MP; write a letter – "Whatever the issue, make your views known. Far too many think 'I don't want to make a fuss', but if MPs don't hear from people, how can they act?"

"Instead, they let younger generations, who have been raised with a greater sense of entitlement, have their say instead." Dr Altmann has an impeccable finance and economics CV that, ironically, includes a spell advising 10 Downing Street, although she observed: "They didn't seem to want to listen."

Before a high-flying City career, she was also an academic at University College London, London School of Economics and at Harvard University, researching and publishing on UK pension policy, occupational pensions and retirement.

**W**hile at Harvard, renowned for producing movers and shakers in the money world, she rubbed shoulders with people such as Bank of England Governor Mervyn King, though she was moved this week to castigate the bank's 'growth at all costs' policy, which she says is restraining interest rates to promote spending and economic recovery, but not helping savers and pensions.

She said: "The Bank of England needs urgently to re-examine its short-sighted policy stance. Growth at all costs is not a recipe for long-term success. Indeed, isn't that how we got into the crisis in the first place? Central banks kept interest rates too low for too long, encouraged too much borrowing, facilitated financial speculation and led people to believe we could all live beyond our means without worrying about the future consequences. It may make people feel a bit better for a while to keep spending and not saving, but this will lead to an even worse crisis in future."

Dr Altmann is a married mother-of-three and lives in London – she aims to continue to do so in order to maximise her lobbying power. Her interests are charity fund-raising, swimming, walking and table tennis.



**BE PERSISTENT:** Advice from pensions expert Dr Ros Altmann



**PROTEST:** Dr Ros Altmann (standing) at an all-night pensions vigil outside Westminster – then pensions minister Mike O'Brien is crouched in the foreground listening to the protesters' case

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## Looking to Marsh legacy

ROMNEY Marsh's heyday as a centre for sheep and wool production is to be marked by the reproduction of a tiny building.

It will be based on a looker's or shepherd's hut. Some 300 of these primitive refuges dotted the marsh landscape during the 18th and 19th centuries, yet only the ruins of a few have survived.

The re-creation will be built next June at Romney Marsh visitor centre and follow a traditional pattern – 10ft square, brick-built, earth floor, peg tile roof, bare rafters, fireplace and chimney.

The project is being financed for educational use by the EU-funded Transmanche Green Network (TGN), which encourages rural

tourism and conservation at Romney Marsh and Reculver in Kent, and the Arena Centre near Boulogne. TGN comprises six cross-Channel partners – Kent Wildlife Trust, Shepway council, Canterbury council, Discover Folkestone, Hythe and Romney Marsh, Communauté d'agglomération Boulonnais; and the Boulogne, Shepway, Canterbury Co-operation Organisation (BOSCO+) – which have finalised a programme starting at Easter to enable Kent and French pupils to visit the three sites. DFHRM manager Chris Kirkham said it was part of a campaign aimed at producing a legacy of tourism benefits on both sides of the Channel.



REFUGE: Looker's hut on Romney Marsh

# Bankers under fire at science park summit

IT WAS clear from a business summit at Kent Science Park that bankers are in the debit column with Kent business leaders, **writes Steve Loader.**

And the meeting closed with an overwhelming majority vote, including guest speaker and Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Gordon Henderson, predicting things would get a lot worse economically before they get any better.

The Conservative MP also fielded many questions from the floor at the science park, near Sittingbourne. It is hoped the summit will become a regular event organised by the Thames Gateway Chamber of Commerce.

### Contentious

Mr Henderson responded to issues ranging from council procurement habits to the bidding process for large public sector contracts. But banking was by far the most contentious topic and, in particular, the amount of credit being made available to SMEs (small to medium-size enterprises).

Mr Henderson admitted he could not envisage the Government dictating terms to those banks where it did not have a major holding following the recent banking crisis.

But his comment sparked a major debate as individuals expressed dismay at onerous terms placed on loans and the extreme difficulty of being approved

for one of the Government's last resort 'enterprise loans'. But Mr Henderson did promise that he would take the issues forward with the Government.

In his opening address, Mr Henderson explained how he could work on behalf of business interests and spoke of his amazement at discovering that not a single apple sold to UK prisons was grown in the UK, let alone in the Garden of England.

He described himself as a "big believer in small government" and, in a dig at now doomed regional development agencies such as Seeda, said he wanted to see an end to "quangos sucking up taxpayers' money".

He made it clear that, unlike many MPs, he is a businessman at heart and planned to interact with the business community through a regular breakfast forum and a dedicated portal via [www.gordonhendersonmp.org.uk](http://www.gordonhendersonmp.org.uk).

Paul Price, marketing director at Kent Science Park, said afterwards: "Our inaugural business debate went very well with Gordon handling the questions remarkably candidly."

"He wasn't scared to break party lines and say he feels the Government needs to be doing considerably more to support businesses in our region."

"The issue of banks lending was one that really brought the debate to life and I think everyone who attended will be confident that Gordon has taken those concerns on board and will be taking them back to the Commons."



CANDID: Gordon Henderson MP at Kent Science Park

## Chamber chief has advice for Labour's new man in charge

BUSINESS leaders in Kent have urged new Labour leader Ed Miliband to prioritise re-connecting the party with Britain's business community.

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) published a survey of MPs suggesting many Labour backbenchers disagreed with small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) over immediate steps required to drive economic recovery.



Jo James

Questioned on measures that would lessen the burden of red tape on businesses:

- Eighty-four per cent of Labour MPs surveyed disagree that a short-term freeze on new/additional employment regulations would help recovery and jobs.
- Ninety-three per cent disagree employment law has shifted too far towards the employee, to the detriment of the employer.
- Sixty-six per cent do not believe there should be a limit on the number of employment law changes at any one time.
- Sixty-two per cent believe Government does a good job analysing the potential impact of new employment laws on businesses before they are introduced.

### Confidence

The BCC says these positions are at odds with the view of businesses and insists cutting the number and cost of new employment regulations is key to firms having the confidence to create new jobs.

Labour MPs agreed on the importance of infrastructure to business growth, with 67 per cent of those surveyed agreeing infrastructure spending should be maintained or increased. Ninety-nine per cent also agreed exports and trade promotion should be a high priority for the Government.

Kent Invicta Chamber chief executive Jo James said: "We now have a very interesting situation, with the coalition Government on one side and a new Labour leader promising a different perspective in opposition."

"Both are proposing greater involvement and influence for the business community, but we have yet to see any really positive movement in this direction."

"Ed Miliband has the opportunity to formulate policies reflecting the desires and needs of businesses in the fight to restore confidence and return to economic equilibrium."

"Business will be the major force in restoring the economy. I very much hope Mr Miliband will take serious account of this. If he was to do so, and gain the approval of the business community, this would inevitably influence the coalition as well."

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# Orbital success is sustained

By **STEVE LOADER**

steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

**DIRECTLINE Structures** has scooped two major awards in quick succession for sustainable design and construction.

The family-owned Ashford design and construction company has been developing commercial steel buildings since 1988 and was lauded at the annual Kent Environment Awards (see story Page 87).

This follows other recent recognition at the London and South East Constructing Excellence Awards, for the design and construction of Directline's own showpiece headquarters, Orbital House, on Ashford's Orbital Business Park.

And now Kent Environment Awards has also praised the company for environmentally-friendly features on the same building.

The judges said: "They considered sustainable design and construction techniques from the inception of the project resulting in



**ORBITAL HOUSE: Innovative and sustainable design impressed awards judges**

far smaller environmental impacts.

"The company has strong leadership allowing techniques and technologies to be trialled

throughout the project ensuring that lessons were learnt and passed on to clients. The new office embodies what can be achieved

through careful planning and the organisation is keen to share their experiences with their clients and the wider community.

"Orbital House is an exemplary building that demonstrates the ethos of Directline Structures."

And they added: "By adopting lean design and waste avoidance they make dramatic savings in materials and so save costs for their clients."

Directline Structures' MD Duncan Murray attended the event at Salomons, Tunbridge Wells, and said: "When we relocated to Ashford we knew it gave us the opportunity to show that a sustainable building can be cost-effective, good-looking and a pleasant place for our staff to work."

"By winning two awards for Orbital House, we are delighted to have been proved right."

The two-storey building covers 1,100 square metres and includes a rainwater harvester – utilising all water from the roof and storing it for flushing toilets – and air-source heating, which keeps the building at a comfortable temperature to provide a good working environment.



**GREEN AND PLEASANT: Composting and recycling areas are a must for eco-tenants – and solar panels will be a welcome addition**

LIVING a greener lifestyle is fast embedding itself in the psyche of British consumers.

Households differ, but this can range from self-sufficient organic lifestyles to simple waste recycling, yet renting has traditionally been a major barrier to 'living green' as landlords are often unwilling to invest in green facilities.

But lettings and property management experts at Belvoir in Rochester say more and more tenants demand green features and landlords must respond.

Belvoir MD Dorian Gonsalves said: "Until now, it's mainly been homeowners who've embraced eco-friendly lifestyles."

"However, the recession forced many onto the rental market and, when combined with a growing number of young tenants who've been brought up green, this group is looking increasingly influential."

And Belvoir identified five easy eco-friendly modifications to help landlords appeal to eco-tenants:

- Recycling and composting area – all green tenants want to recycle waste, so a spacious outside area close to the kitchen is ideal.
- Water butt connecting to the gutter system – each year 85,000 litres of rainwater runs off the roof into a sewer. Green tenants would recycle this water in various ways.
- Outside washing line – this ticks several

## Landlords told to capitalise on their tenants' green demands

green boxes versus a tumble dryer: less energy, 100 per cent natural and more efficient.

• Growing space – opposition to GM foods combined with world food shortages has sparked a boom in homegrown vegetables. Creating space for organic food production is a real plus point for greens.

• Cycle storage – many eco-aware tenants use a bike rather than a car, so a secure bicycle storage space would appeal.

For a bit more investment, landlords can also consider:

• Aerated taps and shower heads. These mix water with air to produce a flow that feels strong yet reduces water usage by 60 per cent.

• Radiator boosters. These suck heated air from behind a radiator and circulate it around the room faster than convection.

• Toilet water savers. When placed in a cistern, these reduce the amount of water used per flush, saving as much as 40 per cent annually.

• Eco-friendly A-rated white goods, which use less power.

• Eco-friendly bulbs. Typically these expend 25 watts of energy to put out the equivalent of 100 watts of light.

• Loft insulation. Reduces annual heat loss by 15 per cent and saves a tonne of CO2 a year. Insulation made from 90 per cent recycled plastic bottles adds extra appeal.

• Condensing boiler. Saves about 1.7 tonnes of CO2 and £200 a year. If this is too expensive, then 'Tag on a Tadpole' – a green gizmo that minimises the dissolved air that makes water slower to heat up.

And for those wanting to go the whole hog there are renewable energy sources: solar panels or tubes to produce hot water and photovoltaic (PV) panels to convert sunlight to electricity. Excess energy can even be sold back to the national grid.

Mr Gonsalves said: "All green modifications are major selling points and must be communicated well at letting time."

"They will not only facilitate the green lifestyles of tenants, they will also demonstrate that you are a caring and thoughtful landlord."

## EU's tougher line on energy certification

MANY property transactions go ahead without the seller or landlord providing what, in most cases, should be a mandatory energy performance certificate.

Kent commercial property lawyer Andrew Gough says the lax attitude is encouraged by general ignorance on the part of the public, low penalties for non-compliance, and a lack of resources by trading standard officers charged with enforcement.

Mr Gough, partner and head of commercial property at Kent solicitors Furley Page, said: "Even if a certificate – known as an EPC – is commissioned, lip service is paid to adopting its recommendations."

"But now the EU has imposed more stringent obligations following its recent review of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and current 2007 regulations."

"These obligations will have to be part of each member state's domestic laws by January 9, 2013."

Mr Gough feels there is likely to be a more aggressive political will now to ensure the UK comes closer to its environmental targets and the movement to greater energy efficiency.

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# County's sports men and women line-up for Commonwealth glory

## Sixteen of our top athletes on England duty

AFTER an inauspicious build-up dominated by security fears and unfinished bedrooms, the 19th Commonwealth Games will officially begin on Sunday.

Over the next fortnight around 6,000 athletes from 71 countries and territories, representing a third of the world's population, will compete in Delhi.

Despite losing middle-distance runner Lisa Dobriskey to injury earlier this month, Kent can lay claim to 16 athletes in England's team.

Several have good chances of returning from India with a medal, particularly Ashley Jackson and Natalie Seymour, whose England hockey teams are both expected to perform well.

In the absence of Dobriskey, who won 1500-metre gold at Melbourne in 2006, the best chance for a Kent track athlete to finish on the podium is likely to be Montell Douglas in the sprint relay.

Bromley-born swimmer Ellen Gandy, who now lives in Australia, is still only 19, but is also in with a chance of adding a Commonwealth medal to a growing CV.

While the county's best medal hopes will be using Delhi as a dress rehearsal for the London Olympics, for some sports it is their only chance to be involved in a big multi-sport event.

Lawn bowls duo Sian Gordon, from Whitstable, and Maidstone's Sandy Hazell come into this category and will be looking to make the most of their time on the global stage.

### KENT'S COMMONWEALTH GAMES ENGLAND TEAM MEMBERS

NAME	KENT LINK	EVENT	DATE
<b>ATHLETICS</b>			
Tom Bosworth	Sevenoaks	20k Race Walk	October 9
Martin Brockman	Maidstone	Decathlon	October 7-8
Grace Clements	Born Dartford	Heptathlon	October 8-9
Montell Douglas	Blackheath	4x100m Relay	Final October 12
Nick Leavey	Born Ashford	4x400m Heats	Final October 12
Scott Rider	Dartford	Shot Put	Final October 7
<b>BADMINTON</b>			
Carl Baxter	Petts Wood	Singles	October 4-14
<b>LAWN BOWLS</b>			
Sian Gordon	Whitstable	Triples	October 4-10
Sandy Hazell	Maidstone	Triples	October 4-10
<b>HOCKEY</b>			
Ashley Jackson	Chatham	Men's Hockey	October 6-14
Natalie Seymour	Maidstone	Women's Hockey	October 5-13
<b>RUGBY SEVENS</b>			
Dan Caprice	Rochester	Rugby Sevens	October 11-12
<b>SHOOTING</b>			
Michael Babb	Born Farnborough	Rifle Prone	October 12
<b>SWIMMING</b>			
Ellen Gandy	Born Bromley	200m Butterfly	October 4-9
<b>WEIGHTLIFTING</b>			
Joe Muskett	Bexley	105kg	October 10
Jack Oliver	Bexleyheath	77kg	October 7
UNITED: Martin Brockman and Montell Douglas			



IN THE GROOVE: Tom Bosworth

## Tom feeling the heat in Doha ahead of 20k walk

WITH the Commonwealth Games' 20km race walk now just six days away, Tom Bosworth admits he is still getting used to the oppressive conditions at England's holding camp in Doha.

Bosworth, who last week in his exclusive column for KOS Media talked of fears for the Games amidst health and safety scares in Delhi, says he is now entirely focused on fine-tuning his own preparations ahead of Saturday's race.

Speaking from Doha, the Sevenoaks athlete, said: "The problems that have surrounded the Games until now have been publicised everywhere and it was impossible to get away from it at home. I have to learn to block everything out and focus on me."

"The heat [in Doha] is a shock at first, even with my experience of training in the chamber at Leeds Met. I need to concentrate on acclimatising because at the end of the day this is just another 20k, the size of the competition must be put to one side and preparing myself to be ready to compete is the key now."

The 20-year-old spoke in glowing terms of both his training facilities and the Doha hotel, having teamed up with the rest of the England athletics squad.

"The holding camp is a fantastic place to be," he said. "The training facilities are also world class and I have no doubt I will be fully prepared by the time it comes to travelling to Delhi. Getting here now and seeing how well organised Team England are, I realise all the stories in the news are not for our concern."

## Seymour after a golden end to great year



HIGH HOPES: Natalie Seymour

NONE of Kent's representatives at the Commonwealth Games have a better chance of returning with a medal than Natalie Seymour.

The Canterbury ladies defender, who turned 24 this week, is part of the England hockey side looking to finish an outstanding year on a high in Delhi.

The squad finished third at the World Cup just three weeks ago, their best-ever finish, and also won their first medal at the Champions Trophy in July.

Consistently strong results have

lifted the team to fifth in the world, ensuring they arrive as the competition's highest ranked team.

Seymour said: "It was great to be able to say we made history at the World Cup, but we want to continue doing that. We want to win more medals at world events and we have a great opportunity going into the Commonwealths."

"If we perform well we have every chance, but it's not going to be an easy tournament; India are on their home soil and will have a lot of support, plus Australia and

New Zealand will be contenders."

The team begin their pool matches against Wales on Tuesday. Canada, Malaysia and New Zealand complete their group.

England's men finished fourth in Melbourne four years ago and will be looking to reclaim a place on the podium.

Chatham-born Ashley Jackson, the reigning world young player of the year, is one of several in the squad making a return to Delhi after helping the side finish fourth at the World Cup in March.

## Byrne's season goes from bad to worse as team ditch him

SHANE Byrne's future in the World Superbike Championship is uncertain following Althea Racing's decision to drop him for 2011.

The two-time British Superbike champion (pictured right) has struggled for results in his second season in the world championship and has regularly been outshone by team-mate Carlos Checa.

The 34-year-old from Sheppey joined Althea Racing at the start of this season, but failed to record a podium finish in any of his 24 races,

the Italian team announced they have no intentions of offering a new deal to Byrne, citing financial constraints.

Team owner Genesio Bevilacqua said: "We have had a great relationship with Shane, but unfortunately the economics of the situation will not allow us to continue to work with him."

"We do not, however, exclude the possibility of running a second bike."

The decision leaves Shakey without a ride for next season and with the factory Ducati

team deciding to quit the series, the number of rides available for next year are limited.

He will complete his last ride for the team today at the final round of the championship at France's Magny Cours circuit.

• CLOSE friend and championship rival Leon Camier has been forced to sit out today's race as he continues his recovery from a broken wrist. The 24-year-old from Ashford broke the scaphoid bone in his wrist as a result of a freak accident at the Nurburgring last month.



Picture: ALTHEA RACING



# Ryder of our lives

## Spence predicts a classic battle between Europe and USA as Montgomerie's team look to regain cup from Americans

By **TOM HOWARD**

KENT golfer Jamie Spence is predicting one of the tightest Ryder Cup battles for years as Europe aim to win back the famous trophy from America at Celtic Manor.

The 47-year-old from Tunbridge Wells has been part of Colin Montgomerie's European back-up team this week and is therefore well placed to give his verdict on what's likely to be a thrilling final day in Wales on Sunday.

It's the first time the former European Tour winner has been involved behind the scenes at the Ryder Cup, but he's no stranger to the famous competition, having been part of the 14-man committee that made Ian Woosnam and Nick Faldo European captains for the 2006 and 2008 events respectively.

Spence, a Nevill Golf Club member, has spent the week with the European team helping the players in their preparation for the tournament as they bid to regain the cup they lost to America in a surprise defeat two years ago.

He said: "Looking at both teams it is probably going to be one of the closest for three or four years. The Europe team have been in good spirits all week and on paper we have a very strong team. We've played hard and had a bit of fun by setting up a bit of a Question of Sport style quiz one night.

"In the past Europe has had to rely on five outstanding players like Seve Ballesteros,



**UP FOR THE CUP:** Captain Colin Montgomerie (left) at Celtic Manor and (right) Tiger Woods gloves up during practice this week. Jamie Spence (above) is part of Monty's back-up team in this year's event

Celtic Manor pictures: KEITH PRIVETT



Picture: GETTY IMAGES

Nick Faldo, Bernhard Langer and Ian Woosnam. Now we have a team of 12 excellent golfers who have all been in great form."

One worry ahead of the Ryder Cup was the fitness of Lee Westwood, who has been recovering from a thigh injury sustained in August. After watching him in practice, Spence predicts the world number three will be on top form.

Spence said: "Lee Westwood, who is our number one, looks fit and raring to go which is great news, and Ian Poulter is really up for it and has been playing really well all week. It's also certainly going to be interesting to see how Tiger Woods plays after everything he has been through."

The final round of singles matches will be completed Sunday evening.



**TITLE IN THE BAG:** Rob McGuirk

## McGuirk breezes to Kent title

**TOUGH** weather conditions brought out the best in Rob McGuirk as he romped to victory in the Kent PGA Championship.

The Prince's professional carded rounds of 68 and 67 to finish nine-under-par, five shots clear of the field after the 36-hole competition at Cherry Lodge Golf Club in Westerham last week.

Michael Ahluwalia (Gravesend Golf Centre) was McGuirk's nearest challenger on four-under, one shot ahead of Steve Purves (Leeds Castle) and Peter

Appleyard (Wilderness), who shared third place.

The field battled winds gusting to 35 miles-an-hour and rain showers throughout the two rounds, which made club selection something of a lottery at times.

A delighted McGuirk admitted he had been helped along the way by one piece of good fortune.

He said: "A bad drive meant playing from behind some trees.

"I tried to hook the shot but it went straight and out of bounds, only to bounce off a tree in someone's garden and back into play."

Appleyard and Pedham Place's Bill Hodkin tied McGuirk's first round 68, but the former European Tour pro stormed clear in the afternoon when he holed his 60-yard approach to the 11th for an eagle. He followed it up with three more birdies to finish well clear of the field.

The victory also means McGuirk won the Kent PGA Order of Merit, edging out club-mate Anthony Tarchetti, who finished the tournament in a share of 13th place.



## Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 50 years

**1960** 50 YEARS AGO: **TRAGEDY** struck at Lydden Race Course when one man was killed and 11 people were seriously injured when a stock car driven by Frederick Funnell of Cranbrook crashed into the crowd.

According to eye witnesses, the car failed to complete a stunt jump and landed on top of another vehicle before flying along the track for 100 metres.

A 28-year old, Robin Goldsmith from Maidstone, was killed. Mr Goldsmith's mother suffered multiple injuries and his three year-old son lost a leg.

Funnell, 39, suffered a fractured spine. The British Stock Car Racing Board of Control had already withdrawn the circuit's licence, claiming there was too much dust on the track and the incident prompted a campaign for "jalopy racing" to be banned.

Veteran driver Vic Ferriday said: "I don't consider the track itself was suitable for any kind of racing."

**1985** 25 YEARS AGO: **GRAHAM** Dilley (pictured) became the latest player to express his desire to leave Kent, following the sacking of Graham Johnson, while Laurie Broad also left and Alan Knott retired.

"All I can say at this stage is that I have asked to be released, I'm sorry but I don't want to say anymore," Dilley said.

Gillingham suffered their third consecutive defeat, going 3-0 down to Plymouth at Home Park.



Trailing 2-0 shortly after the break the Gills had chances to get back into the game, but the best of them, a shot from unsettled midfielder Dave Mehmet, was blocked.

**2000** 10 YEARS AGO: "IT'S just like Wembley again," was the cruel chant from Manchester City's fans, after a thrilling League Cup tie at Priestfield.

After a 1-1 draw in the first leg at Maine Road the Gills went ahead after 25 minutes of the second leg through Andy Thomson.

The game's outstanding performer, however, was winger Mark Kennedy, who twice set up the former AC Milan striker George Weah to give City a 2-1 lead.

Thomson's equaliser forced extra-time, but Paul Dickov, Gillingham's tormentor at Wembley 15 months earlier, and Kennedy gave City a 4-2 win on the night and a 5-3 win on aggregate.

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# The future starts here

SO THERE we have it. After a little over three years of wondering and waiting, work on Kent's £8.2 million redevelopment of the St Lawrence Ground finally got under way this week.

The diggers were called in on Monday to begin the much-needed upgrade of facilities at the Canterbury ground which will include retractable floodlights, a two-storey dressing room block, improved members' facilities in a refurbished pavilion, and a new club shop and office complex.

It's the start of a redevelopment project which the club hopes will allow them to be self-sufficient all year round, and go some way to ending the financial worries that has seen Kent lose more than £1.5 million in the last two years.

The club's chief executive, Jamie Clifford, who has been working on the redevelopment project for the last three years, admitted it had been a long process, but feels there is now "light at the end of the tunnel".

## Challenge

"It's been a long haul getting to this point, but to know now the project is going to happen is exciting," he said. "The 21st century sports fan expects a standard of facility that is very different from the one we have got now and the challenge for us will be to keep the spirit of what the St Lawrence Ground is, whilst moving in that direction."

While it's not yet known when Bellway, the club's new housing partners, will begin work on their two projects – the Bat & Ball and net sites – Kent do have an agreement that any major work will not be carried out during home games next season.

Work that started on the ground this week, which is separate to the Bellway project, is hoped to be done well before the start of next summer, ensuring little disruption for Kent members and supporters.

"The majority of the bits of the project

## GLENN PEARSON reports on a historic day in the future of Kent County Cricket Club

### TIMELINE:

- **MARCH 2006:** Redevelopment plans set out for public inspection
- **JUNE 2007:** Plans approved for £10 million project
- **OCTOBER 2007:** Club expect work to begin in January 2008 after technical difficulties
- **JUNE 2008:** Hotel group Vantage claims hotel and leisure centre will be open in September 2009
- **JANUARY 2009:** Housing partner Persimmon Homes withdraws due to recession, and redevelopment is postponed
- **SEPTEMBER 2009:** Kent members ratify changes to project, scaled down to £8.2 million
- **NOVEMBER 2009:** Canterbury City Council agree to loan Kent £4 million to get redevelopment under way
- **FEBRUARY 2010:** Bellway named new housing partner
- **AUGUST 2010:** Kent search for new hotelier after Vantage runs into financial problems
- **SEPTEMBER 2010:** Work begins on ground redevelopment



FIELD OF DREAMS: Artist's bird's-eye view of the St Lawrence Ground redevelopment

the club are undertaking in the next six months should be completed before the start of the season," Clifford said. "Putting things up like floodlights should be long done by the start of next season, it would be a concern if we had both things competing against each other."

New dressing rooms for the players will be

started first, followed by improvements to the Chiesman Pavilion and lastly new offices, which will be based next to the electronic scoreboard.

The start of the project comes at a critical time for the club as they look to repair the damage caused by the recession and costly ventures such as the two loss-making pop concerts.

Clifford, who officially took over as chief executive in March, denied upgrading facilities at a time when Kent are struggling financially was a mistake.

"Were it not for the redevelopment project I think we could have quite a big problem," he said. "What we have is a chance to rein-

vest that will hopefully lead us to a much stronger position.

"I'd say it is exactly the right time because if we can get our house in order now then you'd like to think we will re-emerge a much stronger organisation.

"This is about long-term investment for long-term gain that should allow us to be a much stronger club in the future.

"We are doing this project to enable us to be a profitable organisation, the speed of which that happens is the challenge for my team.

"Floodlights will be the one element next season that should allow us to see some upside to what we are doing and I think you will see a lot of floodlit cricket next year."



### Clifford on the search for a new hotel developer:

"There are a number of proposals we are considering and the point is we want the best possible deal for the club. The beauty of our situation is that we don't have to rush it. It would be great to have the hotel up as soon as possible, but not to the extent of not getting the best possible deal we can."

### On when Bellway will start work on their two sites:

"They own the land and are now doing what we have been doing for a while which is detailed programming of their construction programme. They hope to have houses on sale by the end of next season. You can read into that, that they are not going to hang about but they will get on and develop their houses as quickly as possible I imagine."

Pictures: ADY KERRY



AT LAST: Kent president Alister Dunning, chief executive Jamie Clifford, project manager Mike Hill and skipper Rob Key help take up the first turf at St Lawrence



PLANNING AHEAD: Rob Key hopes senior players will stay

## Skipper 'pretty confident' trio will stay

KENT skipper Rob Key is hoping he can spend the winter planning for next season with James Tredwell, Darren Stevens and Martin van Jaarsveld all part of his squad.

All three expressed their concern at the news the club were in no financial position to keep hold of fast bowler Amjad Khan last month, leading to a turbulent end of season at St Lawrence.

While their immediate futures are yet to be confirmed, Key, who was reinstated as club captain last week, is hopeful all three will stay, but did

say he is yet to hear from them since last week's end-of-season meeting.

Asked whether he was confident the trio would stay, Key said: "I don't know, I haven't heard anything that these guys are leaving at the moment, so I'm pretty confident.

"It's been an interesting last couple of months to say the least, but I think most people are happy with the way the club is shaping up in the next couple of years.

"The club did very well [in the meeting] – it's sort of silly really because we are all involved in the

club, but when you are away you hear rumours that fly around in the media and you end up start questioning it yourself. The club were able to be pretty honest and give a good account of where we're at and where we're going."

While several members of the squad will spend the winter playing cricket abroad, Key is expecting to do some work for Sky during the close season as well as preparing for his benefit in 2011.

The 31-year-old says his reappointment means both he and head

coach Paul Farbrace can spend the winter planning for next season, although he admits there will not be a great deal of manoeuvre in a 15-man squad.

"There are still overseas questions and overall I don't think we have a great deal of wriggle room, but if we can strengthen somehow then that would be a massive bonus," he said.

"What it's going to take is a couple of guys to really come through and we also have Robbie Joseph to come back. If he's fit then yes we can be competitive."



# Willock revelling in his renaissance

## Ex-Fulham ace loving life at Fleet

By **STEVE TERVET**

STONEBRIDGE Road may be a world away from the glamour of the Premier League, but Ebbsfleet United striker Calum Willock insists he has rarely been happier in his eventful career.

The 28-year-old, who made his professional debut for Fulham 10 years ago, dropped out of full-time football this summer to lead the line for Liam Daish's side in Conference South.

Having endured frustration as a fringe player with several Conference Premier clubs, Willock admitted the promise of first-team football with the Fleet was the main attraction.

His early-season form has been that of a striker enjoying a renaissance, having netted seven times in his first 11 appearances for Daish's new-look side.

"I've got a new lease of life down here," Willock said. "The last three seasons, at least, haven't been good for me because I've been at clubs, but not played regularly. I never had a run of three or four games in a row, and that's what you want as a striker."

"Now I've found a club that's showing faith in me

and that's what it's all about – finding a manager who loves you and believes in you. I had a chat with the gaffer, he told me about his ambitions and I felt I was coming here to play, which is what I want."

Willock played a handful of games for a Fulham side which included Edwin van der Sar and Steed Malbranque, but he failed to break into Jean Tigana's first team. After several loan spells, he spent three years at Peterborough United and was then signed by Brentford as a replacement for DJ Campbell.

After failing to hold down a spot there, he dropped into non-league where he played only a peripheral role with Stevenage, Crawley and then Cambridge, but is now revelling the challenge of firing the Fleet back into the division where both he and the club feel they belong.

"It's odd because I'd never played part-time football in my life," Willock said. "It's not what I'm used to, but I'm here now and I'm happy. The manager said he wants to go straight back up and obviously I want to go somewhere that's ambitious and driven, so I want the same thing."

**REBORN:** After failing to make it with Fulham and struggling at League clubs, Calum Willock has been given a new lease of life by Ebbsfleet

Picture: DAVE PLUMB

Picture: SIMON HARRIS



**BUZZING:** In-form Dover winger Harry Baker

## Whites' displays make winger happy as Harry

DOVER Athletic's latest young sensation, Harry Baker, says the club is buzzing with excitement already over the prospect of a possible promotion to the Conference Premier, **writes Tom Howard.**

The 20-year-old winger could prove to be one of the finds of the season after already impressing manager Martin Hayes and the Crabble faithful since joining the club in the summer.

Baker, born in Bexleyheath, has dropped down three divisions to play for Whites after being released from League One side Leyton Orient last season. The winger came through the youth ranks at the O's and went on to make seven first-team appearances for the club.

Despite moving to the unfamiliar surroundings of Conference South and Dover,

Baker is thoroughly enjoying his time with the club and believes the Whites have a real shot at promotion.

He said: "I didn't know too much about Dover before I joined, but I saw their results last season. There is a definitely a buzz around the place with regards to promotion this season."

Baker has impressed in his seven league appearances and scored a wonder goal in Dover's 6-3 win at home to Farnborough last month.

"It's obviously nice to score goals, but my main aim is to grab a few assists and hopefully help us gain promotion."

"I would like to get back into the Football League, but sometimes you have to go backwards to go forwards and maybe I can end up playing there with Dover."

**BIG CHANCE:** (l-r) Neil Cugley backs Scott Lindsey to make the most of his opportunity

## Great Scott takes over at Lincoln

FORMER Gillingham midfielder Scott Lindsey has been appointed caretaker manager at Lincoln City after Chris Sutton's surprise exit earlier this week.

The 38-year-old will be a familiar name to many football fans in Kent after spells at a host of the county's non-league clubs, including Dover Athletic, Sittingbourne, Ashford Town, Gravesend & Northfleet, Welling United, Folkestone Invicta and Maidstone United.

In 2008 he rejoined Folkestone to act as a player/coach under manager Neil Cugley, who is delighted Lindsey has been given a chance.

He said: "It's great news, Scott's an unbelievable character and is very enthusiastic about football. You take the opportunities when they come and he's got a chance to show what he can do."

Lindsey's first full-time senior coaching role came when Sutton appointed him as first-team coach in September 2009.

The pair, whose playing careers were spent at opposite ends of the footballing spectrum, met while doing their coaching badges.

The former Blackburn striker was so impressed with a session Lindsey put on he decided to offer him a job once he got into management.

## No loan calls for fringe Gills players

GILLINGHAM have had no calls from other clubs to take their fringe players on loan.

The Gills' large squad means several players need to go elsewhere for games, but manager Andy Hessenthaler said: "We are actively trying to get players out on loan, but we've had no interest."

## Burman faces striker challenge

DARTFORD manager Tony Burman admits one of the challenges he faces this season will be keeping all four of his strikers happy – and at the club.

The Darts have one of the strongest forward lines in the division with Lee Burns, Carl Rook, Charlie Sheringham and Danny Harris at Burman's disposal, and thus far he has been able to rotate them due to a combination of injury and form.

Burns, who helped fire Dartford to the Ryman Premier title last season, was preferred as a lone striker at the start of this campaign, but a loss of form in front of goal

and the return to fitness of Sheringham, has seen him make way.

Sheringham is now out with an ankle injury, presenting former Tonbridge man Rook with a chance to stake a claim for a first-team place and he took his chance last week, scoring in the 2-1 win against Lowestoft Town.

Burman says his strikers are aware of the situation and doesn't expect any of them to be pushing for a move away to get first-team football.

"Keeping all four of them happy is something I will have to do but they all know the situation at the club," he said. "I have to say

they have all taken it well and it is nice coming into the club and working with them knowing they are not going to leave.

"Danny Harris would probably start for every other club in this division, but I can only pick two strikers in the starting XI each week."

Although his side have made a slow start to life in Conference South, Burman is sticking by his squad and is not looking to strengthen.

He said: "I'm happy with the squad and I don't envisage any more players coming in. They may not have gelled immediately, but we are getting better."

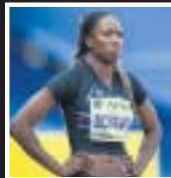


**ANKLE INJURY:**  
Charlie Sheringham  
Picture: SPORTSHOTZ.CO.UK



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**ONE-RACE DEAL:** Ben Collins, aka The Stig (right), will race for Motorbase Performance in his British Touring Car Championship debut next weekend

# TEAM STIG DEEP TO SIGN COLLINS

## Kent-based Motorbase Performance add the man behind the Top Gear mask for Brands Hatch finale

By **TOM HOWARD**

**SOME** say he's a CIA experiment that went wrong, but all we know is Top Gear's The Stig will race for a Kent team at Brands Hatch next weekend.

Ben Collins, the man behind the famous white helmet on the popular BBC television show, has agreed to join Wrotham-based Motorbase Performance for the final round of the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) at the West Kingsdown circuit.

The 36-year-old was sensationally revealed as The Stig following a legal case regarding the launch of his autobiography in August. He has subsequently been sacked from the show after seven years in the white suit.

Apart from performing alongside Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May, Collins has continued his career as a professional racing driver and is vastly

experienced in both single-seater and sportscar disciplines. During his 15-year racing career he has competed in Formula 3, the Le Mans Series and NASCAR.

However, next Sunday will be his first taste of the rough and tumble world of the BTCC when he gets behind the wheel of Motorbase's Airwaves BMW. Interest in the race meeting, which is down to a four-way title fight, is almost certain to be at fever pitch with a crowd of 60,000 expected, and Collins admits there will be extra pressure on him to do well.

He told Kent on Sunday: "I'm expecting a rough ride. It's a great championship with lots of history and the drivers are not afraid to bump into each other. It's a four-way title fight so it's going to be interesting."

"There will be pressure on me, but there is pressure on every racing driver all the time."

"This year I have been racing sportscars and proved I have the ability with a couple of race wins, so I'm in good shape."

Collins is no stranger to Motorbase as he was close to agreeing a deal to drive for them at the start of this season, and has since

admitted he would be interested in joining the championship and Motorbase permanently for 2011.

He said: "David [Bartrum, team owner] and the guys at Motorbase are a great bunch to work with. They would certainly be an option for next year, they're not fighting for the overall title this year, but they are a really good team. The touring car schedule does fit around my hopes to race at Le Mans, too."

Bartrum is delighted to have Collins on board alongside regular drivers Mat Jackson and Steven Kane, and says they will treat him like any other driver when he joins them as part of a three-pronged attack for the independent team title next Sunday.

He said: "As far as we're concerned he is not The Stig, he is just Ben Collins, another driver. I'm pleased we have been able to get him in the car. We wanted to tie up a full deal with him after he tested with us last year for the whole season, but unfortunately we were unable to."

"This will be the first time we use the third car and Ben will be thrown right in the deep end."

## Ledley not the only King who can't train all week

**THE** severity of Simon King's ankle injury means the Gillingham defender is unlikely to manage a full week's training for the rest of his career, writes **David Pritchard**.

The 27-year-old has been on the sidelines for 14 months after rupturing ligaments in a pre-season friendly at Bromley.

After several setbacks he now finally appears to be closing in on a recovery and is looking to join in full training by the end of this month.

The centre-back is delighted to be making progress, but admitted the nature of the injury means he will never be 100 per cent, similar to Tottenham and England's Ledley King, whose knee problems prevent him from training regularly.

King said: "It might be a case of train Monday, take it easy Tuesday and a day off on Wednesday. That's to be discussed with the gaffer, but as long as I'm fit for Saturdays that's the main thing."

"A few people have mentioned Ledley King, but I don't think it's as bad as that, and hopefully I should be able to get a good couple of days under my belt during the week."

"Unfortunately I did injure a part of my ankle which is never going to be 100 per cent healed. It's about man management now, a case of being professional and making sure I enhance my chances of playing for a few more years."

The time out of the game has forced King to reassess his approach to the game and he is keen to make sure others learn from his problems, which were exacerbated by playing on while injured.

He said: "When I see people getting ankle injuries now I try to drum into them they've got to do their work to make sure it's strong again. Before with knocks I used to think 'strap me up and give me a few painkillers' but you have to realise you've got to do your work inside the gym."



Picture: ADY KERRY

**SLOW PROCESS:** Simon King is close to recovering from his 14-month injury hell